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THE

Nonconformist.

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VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 567.]

LONDON : WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10, 1856.

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designated emphatically "the mother tongue of Englishmen." They ought to be very grave and very urgent considerations which should induce us to put in peril this gloriously life-like quality of our present version.

Our objection to the proposed revision is strengthened if, leaving the Book itself as it now exists, we turn, in the next place, to a consideration of the incidents and phenomena with which it has surrounded itself. No other book enters so largely into, we will not say the structure, but the cast and fashion of our national, social, and personal life. Our literature is saturated with its phraseology. Our social converse is more or less tinctured with it. Few are the individuals who have not some sacred associations bound up with it—some monitory, some mournful, some full of tenderness, some radiant with joy. No man can calculate how much the influence of this well-known and venerated phraseology has done, and is doing day by day, to stir thought in the right direction, to check and charm unruly passions, to let in light upon the despondent, to soothe smarting consciences, to heal bleeding hearts, to stimulate and vivify drooping and sluggish spirits. They are the words which above and beyond all others have power to carry us back to childhood in its purity and freshness, and to all those scenes and passages of our individual history, the recollection of which tends to purify our growing secularism. If we must dispel this potent charm of association, at least let it be at the bidding of some still more potent necessity. This is a matter in which we cannot afford to throw away as worthless the magic of words—for in this sphere of human interest words have become things of incalculable power.

Nor should we be justified in wholly ignoring, although we are not disposed to lay very weighty stress upon it, the shock to which a new translation of the Bible would expose the faith of the uneducated portion of our countrymen. Thousands upon thousands who would be utterly incapable of appreciating or deriving advantage from improvements in the authorised version, would be open to all the unfriendly inferences which would be inevitably drawn from the fact that a new translation was needed. That fact alone would suffice to breed doubts—to produce bewilderment—to unsettle inert and passive minds—and although the faith of the ignorant is of little worth as a positive agent, it exercises a negative influence of a prophylactic character which it were extremely unwise to nullify, unless for the attainment of benefits of unquestionable and high importance.

Well, what are the benefits promised by even a successful achievement of this great undertaking? *Cui bono?* we ask. What advantage not otherwise attainable would any of us gain?

It will hardly be pretended that a perfect translation, supposing such a thing possible, would perceptibly affect the doctrinal import of the Holy Scriptures as we have them now. Happily, as we think, the teachings of Revelation rest far more upon facts than upon words—and even where they are delivered verbally, they are embodied in language so definite, so plain, and so frequently modified or repeated, that no conceivable improvement of the version would sensibly affect the truths set forth in it. In this respect, we should be just where we are at the present moment. Our religious differences of opinion, our controversies, our orthodoxies and heterodoxies, would remain wholly unchanged. None of them are based upon the existing English translation. All parties appeal to the original. It is not as though the *ipsissima verba* of the sacred writers were locked up from general inspection. Every reader, by a moderate expenditure of labour, can get at them. There is abundance of exegetical criticism accessible to even the unskilled in the dead languages, and every commentary that is published states the various ways in which almost every controverted passage may be rendered. Nay further, the less important *desideratum* of nicety of expression, delicacy in the shading of words, beauty and bloom of idiom, is not, in the present day, beyond

reach of the unlearned—and there are few persons of either sex who give themselves to any study of the Bible, few Sunday-school children even, who might not gain as accurate a knowledge of what the original documents comprised in the Scriptures really contain, as they would be likely to do from a new version. We object to the proposal, therefore, as wholly unnecessary.

But if the thing itself, at which Mr. Heywood aims, fails to commend itself to our judgment, far less does the manner in which he proposes to set about effecting it. He would solicit the Crown to give to the nation a revised translation of Scripture. Why go to the Crown? Every man in the kingdom is at liberty to translate for himself, and to publish his translation, if so he think fit. Any combination of men may jointly undertake the work. No! but this will not do—what is wanted is an *authorised* revision—a sort of Government *imprimatur* that the product is genuine—a process which shall result in the ordering of the more modern work "to be read in all churches." It is a pandering—unconscious, of course, on the part of the honourable member for North Lancashire—to the fiction that it is the business of the State to provide religious instruction for the people. Consistent Nonconformists can give him no aid in this matter. The Government are neither chosen with a view to such important concerns, nor are they qualified to direct them. They have no right so to use the public funds. They are not to be implicitly trusted in their selection of translators. They probably neither could nor would seek assistance beyond the pale of the Church Establishment. But whether or no, we protest against investing them with functions which do not appertain to their office, and we refuse to recognise in them an authority which we are perpetually blaming them for having assumed. No doubt, the present is an *authorised* translation—we cannot help that—but that is no reason why we Nonconformists should repeat in modern times the pardonable error of an earlier age. It is time that we had got above this delusion of our forefathers.

THE UNDIGNIFIED CLERGY.

"WHY," asked Sydney Smith, "should the Church of England be a collection of beggars and bishops—the right reverend Dives in the palace, and Lazarus in orders at the gate, doctored by dogs and comforted with crumbs?"

"Great wits have short memories;" and so, turning to another portion of Sydney Smith's writings, we find an explanation of the anomaly, and, what is more important, a *vindication* of it. Divide, he says, the revenues of the Church equally, and none of the clergy will receive anything worth having; but let it offer some good prizes, and, though the blanks be never so many, men of wealth and position will "invest their capital" in the Church, and so keep it respectable.

Well, just now, while the fortunate clerical prizeholders, in common with every one who is blessed with spare cash, are in quest of summer pleasures, "A Curate" describes in the *Times* the sorrows of a brother cleric in the like position, and with such effect, that 400*l.* are in a few days poured into a lap which has never before, we ween, known so auriferous an overflow. Yet there is nothing rare in the lot of the curate whom the public, with instinctive humanity, has thus sensibly succoured; for, says the journalist, its main features are "common to thousands of cases"—so that "to half of the clergy, including a large proportion of hard-working and meritorious men, our boasted Establishment, so far from being the richest, is practically the poorest in the world!" "To most clergymen the Church is not only a disappointment—not only a bad commercial speculation, which may seem only a just penalty on secular motives, but a *grinding, degrading, and paralysing poverty*." Perhaps, it is added, nearly 2,000*l.* has been spent in preparing each clergyman for orders, and "the interest of that sum, at four per cent., is, by Act of Parliament, the ordinary pay of a curate charged with the entire care of a parish." Nor is this all, for even the poor minimum of 80*l.* per annum becomes specu-

ORIGINAL
DEFECTIVE

lative, seeing that "there prevails in the English Church a most serious amount of what we may call contraband dealing between incumbents and curates to defeat the parliamentary enactment for the latter. Out of the cupidity of the one class and the necessity for the other, there arise numerous underhand bargains, in which the curate binds himself to accept less than the parliamentary stipend." We can well believe the *Times* when it says, "We should only have to open our columns to cases of clerical destitution, and we should present such a picture of educated misery as is not to be found elsewhere in the world." It gives a few pregnant figures, and then bitterly adds, "Such are the scanty pittance, the precarious tenure, the impending calamities, and the social position of several thousand men who are humorously told to bask in the splendours of a wealthy Establishment, and to rejoice in the light of golden canons and episcopal millionaires."

The truth is, that the "lottery" argument, so shamelessly pleaded in defence of existing ecclesiastical arrangements, is as delusive as it is disgusting. It would be more correct to liken them to a game of chance in which one of the parties plays with loaded dice. The clergyman who has a patron, or who has the cash wherewith to bid at the Auction Mart, obtains a "living" as a matter of course; while "of the general class of curate," we are told, "few have the least chance of one, even if they do their duty ever so well."

"This state of things," quoth the *Times* in closing, "will not only be admitted, it will even be defended by most zealous Churchmen." Yes! it is the proper complement to that other state of things to which we called attention last week, under the head of Episcopal Incomes and Palaces. The Church must have its landlord-prelates, and other dignified clergy; but then it must also have its helots, in the shape of poor and otherwise undignified clergy. St. James's-square and Auckland Castle are essential to its augustness and traditional respectability; but St. Giles's must be tolerated as a necessary evil. There must be one class of clergy for show, and another for work—one to keep on good terms with the world, and another to prevent the Church being altogether distanced by Dissent. Plethora bishoprics, decanal and chapter sinecures, college fellowships, and rich livings form the gilded capital of the ecclesiastical column, which, at the same time, must have its base on vulgar earth.

Here, then, we have one of the many painful results of State-intervention for the maintenance of spiritual agencies. We will do members of the Church of England the justice of believing that, if left to support their own ministry, they would be ashamed to dole out to them the miserable incomes, and to expose them to the indignities, which they now receive at the hands of the Church Establishment. But Episcopalianists have handed the care of religion over to the State, which, in its turn, transfers it to bishops and incumbents, to whom it secures large revenues and rights, but from whom it does not exact efficient and faithful service. These form the spiritual middlemen, as the State is the great spiritual contractor, of the country. Each party, with characteristic rapacity, squeezes all that it can out of the transaction, leaving the bulk of the work to be done by another body of men, scandalously underpaid, without adequate protection, and denied all hope of participation in the good fortune of their superiors. There is nothing like this in any other of the national departments. There is nothing like it, we believe, in any other religious body under the sun. And we will add the expression of a belief, that, whatever may be the anticipations of the large curate-class, to whose wrongs we have thus adverted, there is no reasonable hope of any radical change, so long as the Church Establishment exists as such.

DISENDOWMENT IN IRELAND.

The *Cork Examiner* publishes the following reply of Mr. Miall, M.P., to the address agreed to by the late meeting at Clonakilty:

TO HENRY DEECE, ESQ., CHAIRMAN, AND WILLIAM O'N. DAUNT, HONORARY SECRETARY.

35, Albert-square, Clapham-road, Aug. 23, 1856.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to acknowledge an address subscribed by you on behalf of a meeting of friends of the impartial disendowment of all Churches in Ireland, held on the 16th inst., at Clonakilty. It is with the liveliest satisfaction that I learn the approval of the effort I made in the House of Commons, last session, to induce Parliament to put the several religious communities into which Ireland is divided upon a footing of perfect equality, as it regards their relation to the State. As I am fully aware that the successful prosecution of that object cannot be reasonably hoped for, except with the active concurrence of a majority of the Irish people, I rejoice to learn from you that an organisation in aid of it has been already initiated in Ireland.

I agree with you, gentlemen, that the grievance I have assailed is so unsusceptible of any valid defence, that it must finally fall before enlightened public opinion; but also, in order to success, that combination amongst the Voluntaries of the three kingdoms is essential. To assist in bringing about that combination by all the means I may have at command, will be regarded by me as a sacred duty. And I should hope that with

so great an object before us as that of bestowing upon Ireland the blessed boon of complete religious equality, all parties who desire that consummation would be willing to unite their energies and efforts.

It is my intention to bring the question again before the House, at an early part of next session, but, probably, in a somewhat altered form; and so long as my constituents continue to honour me with their confidence and return me to Parliament, I will renew my attempt, session after session, in such manner as the friends of Impartial Disendowment may judge to be most advantageous. As I have not taken up the matter in a light spirit, nor with any view to personal or party ends, so I trust, I shall not be found to abandon it, nor suffer, it, in my hands, to be disposed of by an unworthy compromise. I cannot, of course, expect the majority of the Irish people to look at the question from precisely the same point as I do. But at least I may hope to have their sympathy in so far as I base my demands for Ireland upon the broad principles of common justice.

Accept, gentlemen, my heartiest thanks for the kind sentiments you have expressed towards me in your address, and believe me to remain, gentlemen, yours very faithfully,

EDWARD MIALL.

THE ANTI-MAYNOOTH AGITATION.

The opponents of the Irish Sebastopol will be gratified to learn that the trenches will positively be re-opened in the next session of Parliament, and that another vigorous effort will be made to demolish the stubborn stronghold. This decision was announced on Tuesday in the following letter, read at the meeting of the Belfast Protestant Association:

My dear Dr. Drew,—Pray assure the Christ Church Protestant Association that I duly appreciate the kind manner in which they have noticed my attempt to put down the national sin of supporting the idolatrous College of Maynooth. The college, I have no doubt, is doomed. How long it will be suffered to remain it is hard to say. At my time of life, seventy-three complete, I cannot expect to be permitted to see the full success of my exertions. Those exertions would have been altogether in vain, had it not been for the assistance and encouragement which I have received from your society, and others of a similar nature. If spared till next session, it is my intention to move the question again, and I shall depend upon a renewal of your kind support. I am, my dear Dr. Drew, yours truly,

RICHARD SPOONER.

Previous to the reading of the foregoing, the Rev. Dr. Drew read the 25th chapter of Isaiah, and then he and all present knelt in prayer; after which an animated discussion ensued in reference to the rather ricketty position of the Conservative party in the Legislature, more especially as regards the knotty question of the Maynooth grant or endowment. Eventually, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved.—That this association learns with regret that any doubt exists in the minds of any Protestants as to the position in which Maynooth stands to the empire at large, and to Protestants especially; that there is abundant evidence to show that no compact whatever exists between the Government and the supporters of Maynooth; that there is no legal compact, for such record is to be found; nor is there a Parliamentary understanding connected with the Union, in behalf of Maynooth, inasmuch as it is notorious the all but unanimous vote of the House of Lords, in 1799, utterly rejected the proposal for a grant; even if Maynooth did come under the proviso which allowed religious and benevolent institutions to receive certain sums for twenty years, that such time has expired. Independently, however, of all such views, this association holds the grant, whether in its old or later state, to be incompatible with Protestant principles and with civil and religious liberty.

The local paper thus reports the conclusion of the proceedings: "With hearty and well-tuned voices the members joined in the doxology, the president repeated the apostolic benediction, and all retired happy in thus fulfilling their duty to the monarch, to religion, to the Bible, and the Sovereign Ruler of all men."

At the weekly meeting of the Dublin Protestant Association, on Monday week, the special business was the adoption of a form of petition against the Maynooth grant, to be forwarded to every parish in Ireland for signatures, against the next session of Parliament. Colonel Bowes moved the adoption of the following petition:

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE AND HONOURABLE THE KNIGHTS, CITIZENS, AND BURGESSES IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The Petition of the undersigned Protestants of the Parish of —————— HUMILY SHEWETH,

That your petitioners are fully persuaded of the vast importance and undeniable truth of the protest against the Church of Rome and its errors, which protest was solemnly adopted by the nation in the resolution of 1688.

That hence your petitioners believe it to be most unconstitutional on the part of the State to endow the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth, in order thereto to educate a priesthood in doctrines pronounced by the laws themselves to be, in their nature, unscriptural, idolatrous, and antichristian. That they hold such endowment to be a sin against Almighty God, and the cause of dishonour, disgrace, demoralisation, and manifold dangers to the United Kingdom and to the empire at large.

That hence your petitioners most humbly pray that your Honourable House may forthwith withdraw all State endowment from the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

He said that, in the course of a short period, a general election must take place; it was then that sound men must buckle on their armour, and come boldly to the front; there would be no use of halting between two opinions; they could not serve God and Mammon—so said the Word of God; let them obey the Word of God, and serve Him only; and how were they to do so nationally if they did not send sound members to Parliament?—Mr. John Martin, in seconding the resolution, said he believed the whole welfare of the nation, the position and status of the great Protestant party,

in and out of Parliament, would be determined by the course they adopted upon this Maynooth question. (Hear.) Maynooth, he said, "was a standing menace against true religion in the land." In reply to the taunt that by the course they were pursuing the prospects of a definite Conservative policy in England was being ruined, he said:—

We have arrived at a most critical position, when true and faithful men have unequal duties imposed on them—(cheers)—when the leaders of the great party of which we once were proud of being members have betrayed us; we have the Lord-Lieutenant hanging over the whole executive government of the country to the serfs and slaves of Rome; when we have the publications of "Doctor" Spratt invested with all the police authority in the city: when we heard "Doctor" Cullen regulating all the military and civil affairs of this country, when every new magistrate that is appointed is a Romanist. The remedy for this is, that the Protestants shall combine together, and raise their voices as one man to determine that on this Maynooth question the interests of the Conservative party shall not be sacrificed, and that we shall have the strong voice of Protestantism at the mountain-shout of liberty pervading the land from end to end; and, if we have not Protestant leaders, we must make Protestant leaders, and have all Protestants coming forward with one voice saying to this Roman conspiracy, "Thus far shalt thou come, but no further." (Hear, and cheer.)

He pointed out, a short time ago, Lord Castlerosse, a bigoted Papist, was appointed as Comptroller of Her Majesty's Household. Within the last few days a fact had come to his knowledge, which made the whole circumstances of the case much more important. He understood that, for years, the personal and private attendant in the Royal household, had been a Roman Catholic—a person with whom the Prince of Wales and the junior members of the Royal family pursued their daily pleasures, was a Roman Catholic.—The next speaker, Mr. T. H. Thompson, fell foul of Lord Stanley after the following fashion:—

We have a rising and brilliant man in Lord Stanley, son to Lord Derby: he is now coming on the stage, and probably imagine he will be some day Prime Minister of England; but his principles are such that it would be totally impossible for any Conservative with an enlightened mind to support him. (Cheers.) His principles are the principles of morality, rectitude, the principles of reformatories; principles that won't stand the test of truth, or of time. The other day he made a very fine speech, I think it was at some of the meetings of the British Association, and there he said that we were all influenced by the moral atmosphere that surrounds us. What does he know about "the moral atmosphere?" He was the first amongst those who wanted to desecrate the Sabbath; he supported Sir Benjamin Hall, Lord Palmerston, and the others who wanted to make the Sabbath like a week-day, so to speak. Yet this is the man who talks about a moral atmosphere!

A Dublin Derbyite journal (*the Express*) has hit upon a plan for settling the Maynooth difficulty, and, as a consequence, healing the sores which have sprung up in the body politic of the once healthy Conservative party:—

It is unquestionably for the benefit of the country that the Irish priests should receive a liberal education. This they cannot obtain without a State endowment. Then let Maynooth have a staff of professors like those of the Queen's Colleges to give the scientific and literary part of the education, and let there be also a staff of theological professors, paid by the Roman Catholics themselves out of their own funds, or out of the fees of the students. In this way the Protestants of the United Kingdom would get rid of the painful responsibility under which they now labour in regard to the religious teaching of Maynooth. If the same principle were carried out in the National schools, and in all intermediate endowment schools, and if, on this just principle of perfect freedom and equality, the Church Education Society's schools got their fair share of the public grant, then we believe the vexed question of education in this country would be satisfactorily and finally settled.

PREACHING IN THE PARKS.

In a letter dated Sept. 2, the Rev. G. T. Driffield, Vicar of Bow, on behalf of a meeting of ministers, writes to Sir B. Hall, First Commissioner of Public Works, reminding him that on the 26th July, he had expressed himself favourable to open-air services in the Parks, and saying further—

We have now to prefer a request that you will, on reconsidering the subject, consent to make such arrangements as will permit of our proceeding with a work so obviously useful; while, should any violation of public morality or religious feeling be repeated by any parties, we submit that it would become your duty to repress such occurrences by all lawful means.

We beg, in conclusion, to express our regret that when you first became informed of the anti-religious proceedings which you justly stigmatise you did not intimate to us your desire that we should desist from the plan of preaching previously to issuing the notice in which we find ourselves by implication classed with blasphemers and Atheists.

In replying on the 5th, Mr. Alfred Angan, Sir Benjamin's secretary, says that the First Commissioner, "after all that has occurred, cannot allow any more preaching in the public parks. He regrets extremely that you should suppose that he could, even by the slightest possible implication, class those excellent clergymen, who were actuated by the purest and the highest motives, with those persons who made use of the blasphemous language which was uttered on Sunday, the 24th ult., in Victoria Park."

In a letter to the *Times*, Mr. Driffield explains the circumstances connected with the permission to hold services in Victoria Park. Before commencing the proposed plan a note was addressed to Sir Benjamin Hall, under the joint signatures of nine of the ministers acting together, requesting his acquiescence, in reply to which they received a letter from the Office of Works, signed by his order, informing them "that instructions had been given to Mr. Gibson, the superintendent of

Victoria Park." On presenting themselves to the superintendent, they were courteously received by him, and all arrangements were made to meet their convenience in prosecuting their objects.

Sir Benjamin Hall's prohibition against preaching in Victoria-park, on Sundays, had the effect on Sunday, of keeping out the clergymen and Dissenting ministers who had made arrangements for a series of sermons there; but as the right honourable baronet's authority did not extend to Bishop Bonner's-fields, which adjoin the park, the clergyman whose turn it was to take the duty, had his pulpit erected without the boundaries of the park, and about a hundred yards from its principal entrance. The service, according to announcement, commenced at half-past three o'clock, at which time the Rev. William Duncan Long, M.A., the incumbent of St. Paul's Church, Bermondsey, took his place. After some appropriate prayers selected from the Liturgy of the Church of England, the reverend gentleman addressed the vast mass of persons who surrounded him. He stated that he was anxious to impress upon them that he was not there in defiance of legal authority, which he wished at all times to respect, for the prohibition issued by the Commissioner of Works only applied to the park, and he had ascertained that there were no impediments to a service being conducted in Bishop Bonner's-fields. As a clergyman of the Church of England he had asked the permission of the incumbent of the district—St. John's, Bethnal-green—to preach there, and that consent had been readily granted. After these preliminary remarks the reverend gentleman selected for his text the 21st verse of the 1st chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel: "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." Upon this passage of Scripture Mr. Long preached in a very fervid manner, to upwards of two thousand persons, all of whom appeared to listen to him with respectful attention. Very decorous conduct was observed throughout the whole of the proceedings. At St. John's Church, the incumbent of which had given his consent to the out-of-door preaching, there was a very poor congregation. It is one of the largest churches in the metropolis, but while Mr. Long was preaching in the fields, there were in the church only two men and fifteen women. The open-air preachings in Bishop Bonner's-fields are to be continued, several of the most eminent clergymen and Dissenting ministers in London having volunteered their services.

THE MARRIAGE AND REGISTRATION ACTS AMENDMENT ACT.

The following circular has been issued by the Registrar-General:—

General Registrar Office, Somerset House,
London, 1st September, 1856.

Reverend Sir,—By direction of the Registrar-General, I take the liberty of addressing you, as the minister of a place of religious worship registered for the solemnisation of marriages, on the subject of the recent statute of 19 and 20 Vict., chapter 119 (passed in the late session of Parliament), entitled "An Act to Amend the Provisions of the Marriage and Registration Acts," with the object of drawing your attention more particularly to the clause which relates to the celebration of marriages in registered buildings.

The eleventh section enacts, amongst other things, that no marriage shall be solemnised in any registered building "without the consent of the minister, or of one of the trustees, owners, deacons, or managers thereof," the previous remission of one of those persons being thus made a condition precedent to the performance of the marriage ceremony within the building.

Hitherto, and until the passing of this statute, the right of the public in the above respect has by the Registrar-General, acting on high legal authority, been held to be absolute and unqualified; that is to say, when both or either of the parties about to intermarry resided in a Superintendent-Registrar's district containing within it a registered building, it has hitherto been considered that on their fully conforming to the requisitions of the Act of 6 and 7 William IV., chapter lxxxv., "for marriages in England," passed in the year 1836, the law entitled them to have the ceremony performed in the registered building named in the marriage notice, on the principle that the last-mentioned Act, being of a *public* nature, and applicable to the whole community, the public in general, upon complying with its provisions, were entitled to avail themselves of the benefit of it; and this view of the case was warranted by the express language of the twentieth section of that act, which without any apparent qualification, authorised the parties to have their marriage solemnised "in the registered building stated in the notice and certificate," "according to such form and ceremony as they" [the parties] "may see fit to adopt," not making even the presence of a minister of religion, much less the performance of a religious service by him, at all essential to the validity of the contract.

Opinions, it is true, have been divided upon the question as to whether persons could thus claim an absolute right to marry in a registered place of worship of their own selection, against the wish or without the consent of the minister or trustees of the building. The point has never been judicially decided, but the better opinion certainly seems to have been, that when once a building had been registered under the provisions of the above act, it must, for the purposes of marriage, be deemed to have been dedicated to the public use; and, except in a few isolated cases, this assumed right on the part of the public, if not formally admitted, has at least been tacitly acquiesced in up to the present time by the ministers and trustees generally of registered places of worship throughout the kingdom.

This moot question, however, is now entirely set at rest. After the 1st January, 1857 (when the new act will come into operation), no marriage can lawfully take place in a registered building without the previous consent of the minister, or of one of the trustees, owners, deacons, or managers thereof, having been obtained. What the practical effect of this restrictive enactment will be as regards the public, the Registrar-General will not venture to predict: he can only hope that it may not unduly interfere with the free operation of the original measure, under the provision of which the

annual number of marriages solemnised in registered buildings in England since the year 1836 has progressively increased. The following table shows the number of persons married in registered Dissenting places of worship in each of the ten years ending 31st December, 1854:

Year.	Number of Persons Married in Dissenting Places of Worship.
1845	14,362
1846	15,338
1847	14,966
1848	16,120
1849	17,324
1850	19,252
1851	19,080
1852	20,084
1853	20,298
1854	19,746
Total in ten years	
	176,520

To return, however, to the immediate object of the present communication. The Registrar-General will shortly issue official instructions to Superintendent-Registrars for their guidance in carrying out the provisions of this new act, one of the most important of those provisions being that which limits in some degree the right of persons to marry in registered buildings; he therefore considers it necessary that he should be in a position to inform the public through that officer under what regulations marriages may in future take place in the chapel of which you are minister, so that persons who are about to select it for the celebration of the marriage may, at the time of giving notice to the Superintendent-Registrar, upon being made acquainted with those regulations, be prepared either to conform thereto, or, in case of their inability or indisposition to do so, fix upon some other building, and so avoid the risk of subsequent disappointment.

I am, therefore, to request that you will favour the Registrar-General, at your earliest opportunity, with a reply to each of the questions which he takes the liberty of submitting to you in the two accompanying forms, one of which you will have the goodness to return to him by post (leaving the postage unpaid), retaining the other for future reference, if required.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

THOS. MANN, Chief Clerk.

The Rev.
The Officiating Minister.

The following are the queries to which answers have been requested:—

1. Will the above-mentioned registered building be accessible and free to all persons, indiscriminately, who shall have obtained from the Superintendent-Registrar of the district the requisite authority for the solemnisation of their marriage therein? Or,

2. Will the use of such building be accorded only to a particular class of persons, and, if so, what class or description of persons will be allowed the privilege of marrying therein?

3. Will it be made a condition of marriage in such registered building that the same shall be solemnised by the minister of the place or (with his consent) by some other minister as his substitute? Or,

4. If the parties should not be desirous of having a religious service, will they be allowed to marry in the building in the absence of a minister?

5. Will the payment of any, and, if so, of what, fee be in future demanded by, or on behalf of the minister of the chapel on the solemnisation of a marriage therein, either by licence or without licence; or will the payment of a fee be left optional with the parties, as hitherto?

6. Will any, and, if so, what, fee be demanded for the use of the chapel on the same occasion?

7. Will you favour the Registrar-General with the names and addresses of the several trustees, owners, deacons, or managers of the above-named registered building, in order that persons proposing to marry therein may know to whom to apply for the requisite consent? If so, please to write those particulars in the space allotted for that purpose on the other side of this paper.

8. Is it, in your opinion, desirable or expedient that ministers of registered places of worship should be appointed to act as registrars of the marriages solemnised therein?

9. Have you, personally, any wish to act in that capacity?

CHURCH-RATES AT GREAT MARLOW.—A meeting to make a Church-rate at Great Marlow was held on Thursday, the 4th inst. Mr. Cannon, the churchwarden, asked that the usual rate be granted; on which Mr. Joseph Wright briefly moved the following amendment: "That the consideration of making a Church-rate be postponed until this day twelve-months." The amendment was put and declared to be carried, on which a poll was demanded, and was fixed for the following day. The Church party seeing that their cause was desperate, set to work in earnest, determined to carry the poll by all and every means within their reach. Despite of all the practices resorted to of intimidation, &c., so degrading and derogatory, 210 votes were recorded in favour of the amendment, against 261; so that the amendment was lost by a majority of 51 only.

CLERICAL DIFFICULTIES IN CLERKENWELL.—The Bishop of London has sequestered the living of St. James's, Clerkenwell, and the inhabitants are in a state of considerable difficulty in reference to the appointment of an incumbent in the room of the late Rev. W. E. L. Faulkner, who died a few weeks since. The living, which has always been in the gift of the parishioners, was to be contended for in the usual manner, when it was suggested that by Sir Benjamin Hall's new act the election was taken out of the hands of the parishioners as a body, and confided to the recently-elected vestry. At the last election, which took place in 1859, the candidates were Dr. Dillon, who subsequently became so notorious, and Mr. Faulkner. There was all the excitement of a political contest, for bands of music were sent through the

streets, committee-rooms were made at public-houses, the candidates made their speeches at taverns, and the clergyman's hat was carried about to collect for the expenses. On that occasion Mr. Faulkner proved successful. Now also there are two candidates—namely, Mr. Horace Roberts, M.A., of Magdalen College, Cambridge, who has been three or four months curate of the parish, and Mr. Robert Maguire, of Islington, who is well known as an anti-Romanist lecturer. Mr. Maguire thinks the controversy between Catholics and Protestants to be of great importance, while Mr. Roberts utterly repudiates controversial questions of faith. At present the churchwardens are in a dilemma, and cannot proceed with the election. The whole of the circumstances of the case having been submitted to Sir Fitzroy Kelly, that legal authority has forwarded to the churchwardens the following opinion, which will be especially important to parishes, which, like Clerkenwell, have enjoyed the privilege of electing their own incumbents: "If the right to nominate the incumbent be still in the parishioners, it must be exercised according to the decision of the Exchequer in 1768, and in single votes, and not under Stages Bourne's Act. But it appears to me, upon the best consideration I have been able to bestow upon the Metropolis Local Management Act, that the right of election has passed from the parishioners to the new vestry, under the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd sections of the 19th and 20th Vict., cap. 112. I must add, however, that this construction is open to so much doubt, and as the question is of great importance, the parishioners would be perfectly justified in taking the opinion of the Court of Queen's Bench, before they surrender the right of election to the new vestry." In consequence of this opinion, the election will in all probability be delayed. The living is worth about £300. a year.

CONVENTS AND JESUITISM IN BELGIUM.—Amongst the more prominent of the recent edifices erected in the Faubourg de Schaerbeek, are the several convents. Fashionable religion in Belgium demonstrates itself, and is as it were divided betwixt "le péché et le remord." "Le Lionne" trespasses, and flies "en retraite," where penitential flagellation can be performed fittingly and with proper precaution. These asylums for sorrowing spirits are strangely increasing. Whether it be that Leonine transgressions multiply, or that the demands of the Jesuit become more menacingly importunate, it is certain that the establishments of the "Dames de Marie" and others are springing up in every direction. In the "Rue Royale extérieure," opposite the Botanical-gardens, a stately house, with extensive gardens, lately belonging to M. Visquain, has been purchased at the high price of 150,000*fr.*, for a religious community of ladies, "que l'on dit d'être celle des Jésuites." The large sums that have been extorted from dying penitents are employed in this manuver. At "les eaux de Spa," where the "Lionnes Ultramontaines" migrate during the summer, and disport themselves over the Ardennes after a fashion that often leads to the "retraite," much sensation has been caused by the premature death of the young Earl of Shrewsbury. Masses have everywhere been said for his soul, and the event has been regarded as "a heavy blow and great discouragement" to Anglican Romanism. At "Champignon," masses are regularly, although privately, celebrated in conventional establishments for the conversion of heretic England to the Catholic faith.—*Brussels Correspondent of the Press.*

DR. M'NEILE AND THE REV. W. J. CONYBEARE.—Dr. M'Neile has published in the *Times* a sequel to the correspondence which appeared above two years ago, arising out of the celebrated article on "Church Parties" in the *Edinburgh Review*. In a letter addressed to the Rev. W. J. Conybeare (then out of the country), the doctor complains that in a reprint where the authorship is avowed, he has omitted the "names of all living individuals," but in so doing has used these words, "In making this change, however, I wish it distinctly to be understood that I retract nothing which I have previously published, except in the single instance of the Bishop of Ossory." "Thus, then," he adds, "in my instance you have deliberately adopted a calumny which you have not dared to defend, and which I now call upon you, as a gentleman, either to substantiate or retract." To this Mr. Conybeare replies that his statement was simply that the doctor was one of the leaders of a large and influential party in the Church, viz., the extreme section of the Evangelical party, and that this statement, published three years ago, he "cannot retract, as it is unquestionably true." In a second letter, Dr. M'Neile asserts that this is not the statement complained of: "You went much further. You called me the leader of a party who teach 'the worthlessness of morality,' and, although you admitted that they seldom advance into actual Antinomianism, you ascribe this to their conscience at the expense of their creed." He adds: "I am sorry to say that now I am compelled to hold you guilty of more, much more than an inadvertence. You made a statement of a most injurious nature concerning me, which I solemnly assured you was not true. I requested you to support your assertion with even an appearance of proof, expressing my willingness—nay, my anxiety—to remove it if such existed. You supplied none. After a long time you repeated the statement, without any attempt at proof or any recognition of my remonstrance. Such conduct fully justified me in calling the statement a gratuitous fabrication, and daring you to the proof of it. Still you attempt no proof, and yet you refuse to retract the statement."

NEW VERSION OF THE BIBLE.—The Rev. B. Evans, of Scarborough, has written a letter to the *Lads Mercury* in reference to its article on the above subject. As we copied the statement of which he

complains, we will insert his denial of its accuracy. He says: "The sentence to which I refer is the following: 'The American Bible Union (whose members are, we understand, generally Baptists holding Unitarian views) is now engaged in,' &c., &c. I know not upon what authority such a statement is made, but I beg to assure you that from whatever source it may be derived, it is utterly destitute of foundation. Not one of the officers of that society are open to the charges; and I think I may with the same confidence affirm that not one of the revisers employed by the board would be exposed to it. Episcopilians, Wesleyans, and Presbyterians, are united with Baptist scholars in the work. Many ministers of the latter body are opposed to the union, but not from doubts of the orthodoxy of the men, but mainly on the ground which you have stated in your article." Mr. Norton, agent to the American Bible Union, has written to us to a similar effect.

THE UNITY OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.—The *Bath Express* advocates the views of the Denison party in the Church. It asserts that the Archbishop of Dublin is Sabellian (which is much the same as calling him Socinian); that the Bishop of Norwich, Dean Milman, and other divines, hold lax notions on inspiration; that Professor Jowett and Dr. Whately, and "the new lights of the Maurice and Kingsley school," are not orthodox on original sin and the Atonement; that few clergymen hold the Calvinism of Article 17; that the clergy differ on apostolical succession; that Sumner, Philpotts, and Whately, are all Church of England bishops; and that Denison should not be molested, while so many of his brethren, despite their departure from the Articles, go free.

ULTRAMONTANE TESTIMONY TO THE PROGRESS OF PROTESTANTISM.—A recent number of the *Univers* contains the following remarks on this head: "In all the Catholic cities, the statistical returns make it apparent that the number of Protestants is increasing in a fearful manner. Dusseldorf, which was almost entirely Catholic, already reckons 7,000 Protestants; and there is a certain parish in Cologne which numbers only a few Catholics." On this statement the *Avenir* observes, in commenting on its value: "We are sometimes told that our efforts are vain, that we have nothing to hope from the attempts of a minority so weak as our Evangelical Protestantism, in the presence of an immense and compact mass like Roman Catholicism. But Catholicism, which ought to know itself, does not thus judge. This unity, of which it boasts, is, we know, alike from faith, from reason, and from experience, a sheer pretence. The *Univers* gives a testimony to the result of our labours. Its five or six lines are worth as much—nay, more—than many pages of the reports of our societies."

The Leicestershire papers announce that the Rev. J. Littleboy, B.A., curate of Shearsby, near Lutterworth, has resigned his connexion with the Church of England for the purpose of joining the communion of the Church of Rome.

The *Cambridge Chronicle* intimates that the Bishop of London will, after his retirement from the supervision of the Metropolitan see, retain a considerable portion of the ecclesiastical patronage which he at present enjoys.

Religious Intelligence.

BARBICAN CHAPEL.—The Rev. R. M. MacBrair, M.A., has been unanimously elected pastor of the Church and congregation meeting in Barbican Independent Chapel, and will commence his labours next Sunday. Mr. MacBrair lately seceded from the Wesleyan Connexion, being dissatisfied with some parts of its economy, and especially with the present exercise of discipline, by the hierarchy who guide its affairs.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.—On Tuesday, September 2, Mr. Joseph Shillito, of the Lancashire Independent College, was publicly set apart to the pastorate of the Congregational Church assembling in Ebenezer Chapel. The services connected with the ordination commenced with a devotional meeting on the Monday evening, when the Rev. J. Stuckberry, B.A., of Wakefield, delivered a very impressive and suggestive address. On Tuesday morning, after the Rev. W. Shillito had given out a hymn, and the Rev. W. Thomas, of Bradford, had conducted the devotional exercises, the Rev. E. Mellor, M.A., of Halifax, delivered the introductory discourse. He departed from the usual routine, and spoke of some of the weaknesses and wants of the Independents. It was a most masterly production, pungent, stirring, and practical. The Rev. R. Skinner, of Huddersfield, asked the usual questions, to which Mr. Shillito furnished answers of more than usual interest. Rev. H. Bean, of Heckmondwike, offered the ordination prayer; after which, the Rev. J. Parsons, of York, gave the charge, a most affectionate and solemn one, to the pastor. In the evening, the Rev. R. Bruce, M.A., Huddersfield, read the Scriptures and prayed. Then the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, of Manchester, preached to the people, with his usual power and ability. The chapel was crowded throughout the day, and it was very delightful to see the warm attachment which the people entertain for their pastor. He enters on his sphere of labour with very bright prospects. There were upwards of thirty ministers present. Besides those already mentioned, there were Dr. Bewglass, Silcoates; Revs. Reeve, Wormacott, and Harris, Morley; Morgan, Leeds; Oddie, Ossett; Cuthbertson, Cleckheaton; Rae, Batley; Ward, Horbury; Eastmead, Wakefield; Gladstone, of Knaresborough; and Gladstone, of Goole, &c.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, HOLMFIRTH.—The recognition services in connexion with the public installation of the Rev. Robert Willan, as minister of the Church and congregation assembling at the Independ-

ent Chapel, at Lane, took place on Wednesday last, in the presence of a numerous and highly respectable congregation. The school-room adjoining the chapel was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens, and suitable mottoes. The Rev. Mr. Cockin, of Halifax, conducted the opening devotional services; Mr. Coldwell read a paper giving a brief historical account of the Church; the Rev. G. W. Conder, of Leeds, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. Richard Skinner, of Huddersfield, proposed the usual questions and offered the recognition prayer. The Rev. Henry Bean, of Heckmondwike, should have delivered the charge to the minister, but it was deferred until the next Sabbath-day. A public tea meeting was afterwards held in the school-room, and upwards of 250 persons sat down to the repast. In the evening, the sermon to the people was preached by the Rev. Jas. Parsons, York.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.—The Rev. Wm. Isaac, of Petersfield, Hants, has accepted the cordial invitation of the Church and congregation assembling at the Independent Chapel, Ealing Grove, and purposes entering on his labours on the first Sabbath in October.

LEEDS.—On Thursday evening last, the members of the Church and congregation of Queen-street Chapel, Leeds, assembled in the school-room of that place of worship, to take tea, and present a testimonial of affection and esteem to the Rev. Dr. Hurndall, for the kind and valuable services rendered by him to the congregation; the pastor, the Rev. Wm. Guest, being absent, from ill health, in Italy. Isaac Dodgshun, Esq., presided; and after he and other gentlemen had addressed the meeting on subjects more immediately affecting the interests of the Church, W. Scholefield, Esq., in a very appropriate and impressive manner, presented the testimonial, which consists of nineteen handsomely and uniformly bound volumes, value 20/- (each volume bearing a suitable inscription inside); and the reverend doctor, in a few remarks, evincing much feeling, replied.

RV. H. R. REYNOLDS.—Many of our readers in all parts of the country will regret to learn that this much esteemed minister again finds himself unequal to the discharge of his duties as pastor of the Church and congregation assembling in East-parade Chapel, Leeds. It may be remembered that when he returned home in July last, it was with leave from his medical attendants to resume a small portion only of his public labours, and under the impression that with care and time the amount of ministerial duty he was capable of discharging might be increased. Unhappily, this experiment has failed, and it is now clear that it was made too early. Mr. Reynolds has, for the last few weeks, been unable to preach even once on each Sunday, as at the first. Under these circumstances the reverend gentleman felt it right to express to the deacons of the Church his sense of the necessity of resigning his charge. Those officers, however, begged him to suspend any decision on the subject, and on Thursday evening brought the matter before a very numerous meeting of the Church, when it was unanimously resolved to request Mr. Reynolds "to take entire rest from all public labours, with such change of air and scene as his medical advisers may recommend, in the hope that in the course of the next twelve months he may be restored to a degree of health and strength adequate to the discharge of at least a portion of his ministerial and pastoral duties." We believe that this request, which was accompanied by most gratifying expressions of confidence and affection, will be acceded to, and that Mr. Reynolds will shortly leave Leeds for the south of England, and possibly spend the winter on the Continent. His numerous friends will be glad to be assured that the dangerous disease from which he suffered last year, has left no trace of its existence, and that his present weakness is the result rather of previous over-exertion, perfect recovery from the effects of which can only be obtained by a lengthened period of rest.—*Leeds Mercury*.

THE REV. D. W. SIMON.—Mr. Simon has resigned the pastoral office over the Church and congregation, Independent Chapel, John-street, Rayston, Cheshire.

WORKSOP.—On Thursday, August 28, the Rev. E. Pickford, late of Airedale College, was ordained as pastor of the Church assembling in the Congregational Chapel, West Gate, Worksop. The Rev. W. Jackson, of Mansfield, introduced the services, by reading the Scriptures and prayer. The Rev. J. Hoyle, B.A., University of London, described the nature and constitution of a Christian Church. The Rev. J. H. Muir, of Sheffield, asked the usual questions and offered the ordination prayer. The Rev. R. Calvert, of Hyde, the young minister's former pastor, gave the charge to the pastor. In the evening, at seven o'clock, the Rev. S. M'All, of Nottingham, preached a sermon on the relative duties of pastor and people.

MR. ROEBUCK AT SHEFFIELD.

Mr. Roebuck, M.P., has been presented by his constituents with a purse of 1,100 guineas. The presentation took place on Thursday, in the Music-hall, at Sheffield. This sum is the residue of a subscription opened some twelve months since, to provide for Sheffield a memorial, in the shape of a portrait, of its honourable member. The portrait will be placed in some public hall. The subscribers are men of all parties, including several M.P.'s, and are by no means confined to Sheffield. In opening the proceedings, the chairman, Mr. FAWCETT, the Mayor, remarked, that those who differed with Mr. Roebuck admired his manliness and consistency; and all desired to show the grateful feelings which they entertain for the general conduct of their representatives, especially with respect to the army in the Crimea. To Mr. W. FISHER was intrusted the task of presenting the purse, and of explaining, that several members of Parliament, of every section of politics, and many of his fellow-countrymen, had subscribed to the testimonial.

MR. ROEBUCK.—In returning thanks, gave an account of his position, as estimated by himself. He claimed for himself an independent individual position. He was neither Whig nor Tory, but had ever advocated the good of the people:—

Going into Parliament unsupported, and only recommended by that true friend of the people the late Joseph Hume, I determined not to ally myself to either of the great parties that then divided the House of Commons and the kingdom. On the one side I saw predominant in power the great Whig party of the realm; on the opposite benches I saw, diminished in numbers, cowed in spirit, but still powerful in their hold upon the country, the great Tory party of England. To neither the one nor the other—though I might have been said at the time to be a young man, a political adventurer—did I determine to adhere. I was neither Whig nor Tory; but I went into the House of Commons determined to advocate that which I believed to be the interest of the people, without regard to party considerations. (Cheers.) To that rule I have adhered, and no man can say now that I am either Whig or Tory. Other men, greater in intellect than myself, have gone into the House of Commons, but have invariably joined one party or the other. They have won for themselves power and consideration, but it has been by sinking the individual, and making themselves one of a party to which they swore allegiance. I have succumbed to neither, but have represented the people of England, and thus have won my way through the House of Commons. Forswearing obedience both to one party and the other, I hold it to be my greatest pride that I have not pandered to the people, but have opposed the popular voice whenever I have thought that voice wrong, just as I have opposed the Whig or Tory party when I have thought them wrong. (Cheers.) Still, in spite of this antagonistic rule which I have laid down for myself, I have won, I am proud to say, the confidence of my fellow-countrymen, and now stand here to-night one of the most striking instances of the reward that steadfastness can obtain from the people of this country. (Cheers.)

Mr. Roebuck expressed his opinion that he should be enabled to obtain further benefits for the country. He then described his plan—to work out reforms through the House of Commons by means of an association of members acting independently of the great parties, and considering only the interests of the people. In forming this band, he relied upon the efforts of the Administrative Reform Association. At the present moment, he remarked, there is in the country a certain apathy about political matters. If an angel of light came down with a Reform Bill, for instance, the people would say, "That is not what we require at present." What they do require is that all the powers of the State should be well administered; and the way to obtain that end is to reform the Administration by reforming the House of Commons. But the constituencies themselves need reforming. The people are very much at fault. They send men to Parliament who forget them the moment they get to London. When they enter Parliament, they are overwhelmed and destroyed by the influences to which they are subjected.

Mr. So-and-So and his wife go to London; he desires to go into society, and Mrs. So-and-So to take her place as the wife of a member of Parliament. I recollect a story which affords a strong illustration of the influence of society on members of Parliament. When Lord Melbourne's Administration was coming to an end, the majorities it could obtain were very small, and any man who stood out, who had scruples at that time, became of importance—and there are certain men who cannot obtain importance in any other way: these men suddenly found themselves beset with scruples, not knowing which way they were to vote. Thereupon they were immediately fastened on by the Whippers-in as they are called. There was one gentleman, and he came from the manufacturing districts, who was suddenly beset with scruples. When "coming events cast their shadows before," which was wittily said after a majority of four in favour of the Ministry—when coming events showed that they were going out, he discovered that his vote was a matter of the very greatest importance, and he gave the Whipper-in to understand that he was undecided how to vote. That was a very significant symptom; the Whipper-in knew what it meant, and immediately set about to see how he could gain Mr. So-and-So's vote: and how do you think he gained it? By offering him a place? No; that was not his weak point; but by sending him an invitation to the Queen's ball. (Laughter.) The man from that time was quiet; he was bound to the party, and accordingly helped to swell the majority from four to five. But does not that show the social influence brought to bear upon the House of Commons? You don't know that House as well as I do, and I confidently say that the only way to test any man is to send him to that House. I have seen men blustering on the hustings very violently, who told the people what they were going to do, who when they came to that House were like sucking doves. Their roar became a most melifluous chant, and they would do anything to gain the good opinion of that House. They were no longer your representatives; they represented only their feelings and wishes, and were the subjects and slaves of the aristocratic elements of the House.

With respect to the future, he thought great questions were about to arise. We were far too quiet—like the Yankee going down the smooth, rapid river and nearing a cataract. "He did not like the almighty stillness," and thought a cataract of revolution was at hand:—

I believe that we are on the very precipice of great changes both abroad and at home. (Hear, hear.) I cannot believe that mankind, having arrived at that point of civilisation and education at which it has, Europe can long remain subjected to the despotism which now overwhelms it. God forbid that the struggles of mankind since 1789 should issue only in the base despotism I now see overshadowing Europe. I believe mankind will rise up, and I hope that they will do. (Cheers.) I hope they will rise up against the despotism that now weighs them down; but in so rising they will imperil much for themselves, and at the same time do much for you; for be assured that no revolution can take place in Europe but will find somewhat of an echo and exercise an influence in Eng-

land. Not that we are not a happy people. We are unlike the rest of Europe; here public opinion reigns supreme. In Europe can you find the *Times* newspaper? No. Can you find a plain-speaking man? No. Should not I be shut up to-morrow? Well, then, what is good for England is good for Europe. I believe that the great mission of England is to perpetuate, not only its generous institutions, but the opinions of its people. (Cheers.) We are the reigning people of the European continent, and I will be bold to say that the opinions we entertain, the example we set to all surrounding nations, will have its effect, and that they will point to England—(cheers)—and will say, why can't we be like Englishmen? And they can be so. The Italian, the Frenchman, the German, the Hungarian, the Bohemian, the Pole—all can be like Englishmen. I believe, gentlemen, that the time is coming when the great nationalities of Europe will rise up as one man against the oppressive despots which now weigh them down. Be you prepared for that change. You may set an example to the world at large by your steadfastness in well-doing, by your obedience to the law, by your self-government; showing that liberty is safety, and that the only safety for mankind is through liberty. (Cheers.)

In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Roebuck said he hoped it would be fully understood that the presence of the Mayor did not imply concurrence in the political opinions held by himself; and the Mayor in return frankly admitted that he differed from Mr. Roebuck in some things, yet that he did concur in the views expressed that night.

THE CUTLER'S FEAST AT SHEFFIELD.

This annual celebration came off on Thursday, in the Cutler's Hall; Mr. Wostenholm, the new Master Cutler, occupying the chair. Amongst the distinguished persons present were the Duke of Newcastle; Mr. Dallas, the American Minister; Mr. Milnes, M.P.; Mr. Roebuck, M.P.; Mr. Oliveira, M.P.; Mr. B. Denison, M.P.; Lord Denman; Lord G. Manners; the Mayors of Grimsby and Doncaster; M. Gudin, of the French navy; Mr. Bessemer, whose important improvement in the manufacture of iron is now attracting such general attention; and a general company of about 200 of the principal inhabitants of Sheffield, and friends from a distance. After the customary toasts, the CHAIRMAN proposed the health of the Emperor of the French, coupling with it the name of M. Gudin, who, in returning thanks, said:—

He was sorry to say that England and France had been pitted against each other too long, but perhaps there was no great harm done, for as they had tested each other's courage in the field they could now fight with greater confidence together against any enemy who might present himself. (Hear, hear.) But peace had come, and Birmingham might well be jealous of Sheffield; for Birmingham forged weapons of war, while Sheffield forged knives and forks—knives with which when young we use to cut our pens to write love letters, but when old to write accounts. (Cheers and laughter.) He was quite sure that the knife which was to cut the tie which bound England and France together would never be forged in Sheffield. He had the pleasure of personally knowing the Emperor of the French, and had had the honour of presenting to him Mr. Bessemer, who had received great encouragement and support from him.

The health of the Duke of Newcastle followed, which was responded to in a very interesting speech. The noble Duke referring to what was personal to himself, said:—

I do not forget at this moment the remark, "Abuse me as much as you like, but for heaven's sake don't pass me over in silence"—(a laugh);—and if I am not to depart from this axiom, all I can say is, that I feel I have deep reason to be grateful for much that has been said, and still more that has been written of me, within a very recent period. Upon this occasion politics are properly excluded, nor will I be the first to encroach upon that wholesome rule; and, although the Master Cutler alluded more especially to the office I lately held of Secretary of War, I will not be tempted even by that allusion into any vindication of myself, however well it might be received by you. Nay, more, I will not be tempted by the presence even of my honourable and learned but somewhat aggressive friend the member for Sheffield—(laughter and cheers)—to enter into any explanations on this point. The time may come when—nay, I am ready at this moment—I shall see fit to venture on so audacious an act as to break a lance with him. But the time still more probably will come when the publication of documents will establish facts which may induce even my honourable and learned friend to somewhat modify his opinion. At all events, you will, I am sure, be convinced that the long and determined silence which I have maintained for many months past has been dictated by other and higher motives than an acceptance of the blame which has been cast upon me, or an entire acquiescence in much of the self-laudation which has been assumed by others. I will only make this further allusion to my recent connexion with the Government of the country, that, having resolved from the hour that I gave up the seals of office that I would go to the Crimea and visit that army myself, as well for the clearance of my own conscience as to acquire a knowledge which I knew neither I nor any one else in this country possessed—having determined to go in spite of the earnest remonstrances of many sincere friends, I only felt one regret, and that was that I had not for a companion, when visiting the trenches, the camp, and the hospitals, the honourable Chairman of the Sebastopol Committee. (Laughter and cheers.) I assure the honourable gentleman, however, that that feeling was not dictated by the circumstance of the numerous balls of various sorts and sizes that occasionally whizzed about my head, but that he might have the opportunity of witnessing the uniform and generous kindness with which I was received, not only by the officers, but by every private in the army. And let me say, that before I left the camp, my gray jacket and white cap became as well known to the privates as the uniform of their own officers. (Cheers.)

He congratulated the company on having at their board, he believed for the first time, a man of very

great distinction, the representative of a cognate country—the representative of a country the like of which he believed the world had never seen, in many respects, for America only reckoned some fourscore years of existence as a country. He was satisfied that this country would make any sacrifice to avoid a war with the United States but one, and that one is a sacrifice which it would never endeavour to flinch from us: that sacrifice was our honour. (Cheers.) He believed that at this moment the export of unwrought steel from that town to the United States amounted to something like 6,000 tons a year. He spoke not of other more manufactured articles, but of one which alone might form, he did not say a golden but an iron link between the two countries. (Cheers.) He believed there never was a time when all party politics were at so low an ebb—when party differences so little influenced men as they did at this moment. This absence of party feeling has this great advantage, that it was the season in which social improvements of all kinds might be greatly promoted, and when, as they saw at this moment, men of various creeds and various political professions, join hand in hand for the promotion of the education of the people. (Cheers.)

The MASTER CUTLER then proposed the health of his Excellency Mr. Dallas, the representative of the United States. (Loud cheering.)

The Hon. Mr. DALLAS rose amidst loud and protracted cheering. After thanking the assembly for the kind manner in which they received him, he said:

Like yourselves, the sons of the Western Republic love the land to which they belong, and they listen, especially when abroad, as to sweet music, to those who express towards her sentiments of friendship, of honour, and of goodwill. It is not for me, a mere stranger, to refer to the local topics of interest which justly pre-occupy your minds. As to them I am a mere looker-on, eager for instruction, and anxious to understand. But, as perhaps not the least inappropriate to the occasion among the numberless vestiges of this progressive age, let me allure your minds to a single one, perhaps the latest which I think must be of great moment to the social relations existing between the two nations. Let us hope that the consequences may be mutually advantageous. You have probably heard of the irrepressible cupidity of my countrymen. They are about to undertake a daring exploit of annexation—an annexation that will at once embrace these islands, and must ultimately include all Europe, Asia, and Africa. (A laugh.) I have actually in my possession a piece of a bar which has just been forged to bind those three Eastern venerable continents to the fresh one of Columbia. We say in the far West that you possess accumulated treasures, which we covet and must have. (Hear, hear.) The great discoveries of your explorers in the earth and in the heavens are innumerable, and the additions made to the comfort and happiness of the human race by you are hundreds of millions; the schemes of your commerce, every step you make in morals, in jurisprudence, in the press, even in finance and the stocks, we want, and we must have, and have them as quickly as yourselves. We are aware that there is not in the wings of the carrier-pigeon strength enough for this, and that steam is too wretchedly slow for our impatience. But a subterranean electric cable, with one grapple at St. John's, Newfoundland, and the other at Valentia in Ireland, resting on 1,700 miles, secure and indestructible in the depths of the Atlantic, will realise all our objects, achieve all the desires of our hearts, and rivet an annexation more wonderful and infinitely more praiseworthy than that of Texas or of Oude. I should not have indulged in this flight, even to beguile you for a moment, were you not perfectly satisfied that the astonishing fact whence it has sprung is no longer disputable. Our two countries, the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, though separated by the stormy sea thousands of miles in width, will, in the course of coming years, be drawn by the magical machinery, so to speak, of science, within conversational distance of each other. (Cheers.) The preliminary soundings were perfected a few days ago between these two great arteries of sympathy of thought. I wish the line were now in operation, and why? Because I would instantly illustrate its most glorious adaptation to the promotion of goodwill among men in distant places by sending your toasts to my compatriots, and giving you before you rose from this table a full-hearted American response. (Cheers.)

Mr. B. DENISON, M.P., in responding to "the health of the members of the West Riding," spoke of the late war, and continued:—

We sent our soldiers to take Sebastopol, and they had done it. The war had been begun while his noble friend the Duke of Newcastle was one, and, in his opinion, one of the most efficient, of the Ministry. (Loud cheers.) That nobleman worked from morning till night and night till morning. (Hear, hear.) He was the most abused of any man in the service, and, as he (Mr. Denison) maintained, had been most grossly calumniated. But the page of history would reveal the truth—(cheers)—and, as he believed, would record the fact that the noble duke had been made the scapegoat of the Ministry and the party. What his colleagues had not been permitted to carry out their successors had executed most satisfactorily, and he must say that, in his opinion, Lord Palmerston deserved the thanks of the United Kingdom. (Cheers.) He had nothing to do with either the previous or the existing Government, but he liked to praise a man who did his work well, whether he were Conservative, Whig, or Radical.

Mr. WALKER proposed "The Health of the Borough Members," and in doing so spoke of the great worth of Mr. Hadfield, whom he designated as one of the most useful members of the House of Commons, and expressed his opinion that if that honourable member succeeded in his attempts to cleanse the Augean stable of the ecclesiastical courts, he would have done as great a service to his country as the honourable Chairman of the Sebastopol Committee.

Mr. ROEBUCK, who on rising was received with loud cheers, returned thanks on behalf of himself and his honourable colleague. As he was not there, perhaps they would allow him to say that Mr. Hadfield had been to them a very useful representative. (Hear, hear.) He had been to him (Mr. Roebuck) also a very kind and efficient friend, and every day that he had

passed in the House of Commons since his return had been rendered less onerous by his assistance. Mr. Roebuck then referred to the Duke of Newcastle.

The noble duke has called me the learned and somewhat aggressive member for Sheffield. I think that the noble duke has hardly followed the history of my doings with respect to himself. For once in my life—and it was an astonishing circumstance—I praised a man in the House of Commons; that man was the noble duke. (Cheers.) There are friends at this table who said upon that occasion, that, contrary to my wont, I was illogical, and that I ruined my cause by the praise which I bestowed. I made a promise then in the House of Commons, which I intend to keep, that I would never praise a man again. (Laughter.) I then stated, what I really believed, that the noble duke had been made the scapegoat of his colleagues: that he was sincere in his desire to do all the duties of his office; that he was industrious; that he was sedulous for the benefit of the army; and that the army owed him a debt of gratitude. I said all this when the noble duke was not present: but it was my fate to rouse him and his colleagues with a rattling peal of thunder when I moved for the Sebastopol Committee. But was I to blame for that? Did not the people of England, and did not the House of Commons go with me? I put it to the noble duke if he thinks that I did not do my duty on that occasion? ("Hear, hear," from the Duke of Newcastle, and cheers.) Far be it from me to say where the blame lay, but blame there was. I pointed out where the blame ought not to lie, and I hoped that that proceeding on my part would have been remembered. What were the circumstances? Now, although it is a very useful rule at Cutlers' feasts that no man shall talk politics, yet I find that politics are talked from the beginning to the end of the meetings. Am I to be blamed for that? I didn't begin or lead off the dance; I didn't point out the figure; I only followed where others—for my superiors—have led the way. Well, then, I ask you, gentlemen, that seeing our noble army was melting away—dying away by thousands—not by the armies of the enemy, but by the neglect of friends—was I to blame for calling the attention of the people of England to that fact? (Cheers and cries of "No, no!") That the noble duke was driven from office I am exceedingly sorry, for I think he was a good and efficient servant of the Crown; and I think he would have received great aid from that committee had he remained in office. But the peculiar feelings of the noble duke did not enable him to retain his office, and others came in that I cannot say are his superiors. But for all these things am I to be blamed? (Cries of "No, no") If not, I want to know what was the meaning of the statement made by the noble duke of the aggressive nature of the honourable member for Sheffield? I was aggressive, but it was for the noble army of England. I was aggressive, but it was for the honour and safety of the country. I endeavoured to conciliate those two things, the safety of England and the retention of the noble duke; and when I found that to be incompatible, and believing that the one was far superior to the other, I threw myself and all that were with me into the scale in which my country was. If I forgot the noble duke, I beg his pardon, and I hope I shall obtain it. I shall pass from that subject. I think I may say that I have vindicated myself, and that there is nothing in the mind of the noble duke of asperity towards me—"hear, hear!" from the Duke of Newcastle)—as I am quite sure there is nothing of asperity in me towards him. (Cheers.)

In allusion to the good feeling between England and America, Mr. Roebuck spoke up for the free expression of opinion:—

There are blots upon both sides, but depend upon it that friendly criticism on both sides of the water will do each other good. But there must be no unnecessary heat on either side. We must be just; we must be magnanimous; we must be generous; we must be friends; and if the Americans choose to find fault with us, we shall accept their criticism, but we shall reciprocate the benefit by finding fault with them. (Laughter.) I am quite sure that much benefit will arise to both nations from this course of proceeding. We receive their literature, we receive all the advances they make in science. They take a fair proportion from us. For this literature we pay them well; and for their arts and sciences they are no losers by exchanging with us. Let them not grudge the greatness that belongs to us. Let them be free and frank descendants of England. Let them honour the root from which they sprang. If they are great, we are great. I believe that they are destined to be a great people. We are that already. We have conferred benefits upon mankind that mankind can never forget. This may be a proud assumption, but it is both proud and true. (Cheers.)

Several other toasts were given and responded to in the course of the evening.

Foreign and Colonial.

SPAIN.

The *Gazette* publishes the Royal decree dissolving the Constituent Assembly. It is as follows: "I declare the sittings of the Constituent Cortes, convoked by my Royal decree of the 11th August, 1854, to be definitively closed, and their mission terminated."

The Madrid journals contain the official justification of the decree, by which the Cortes have been dissolved. The Ministers declare in it, that after the re-establishment and consolidation of the Royal authority, the Government had found time to occupy itself with the position assumed by the Cortes. They are of opinion that this assembly has overstepped the limits of its powers, and that it has behaved regardless of the restrictions which were originally put upon its mandate by this decree of convocation. Neither the decree, nor this justification of it, says anything about fixing a time for the elections.

According to a special correspondent of the *Daily News*, the Government would have preferred at the outset to let the Cortes assemble, as simply convened by the President:—

The mongrel members of the Progressist party have been for some weeks past in conference with the agents of the Cabinet. The desire of the latter was that the

Cortes should abstain entirely from making any allusion to the events of last July. Rios Rosas would have declared to them, on behalf of the Cabinet, that the measure of putting the whole country into a state of siege was meant as a weapon to be used against the incendiaries, the socialists, the communists, the demagogues, and other folks of the same kidney. He was to have proposed a general oblivion of these bygones, and to have asked the Cortes to pass an act of indemnity, as well as to undertake to dissolve itself, after having voted the supplies, a law upon the re-organisation of the militia, to be composed of the aristocratic and bourgeois classes, and a restrictive law for the press. The 100 deputies who, by their vote or their adhesion, had joined in protesting against O'Donnell, would willingly have agreed to all these demands, except the condition that they should refrain from speaking of the days of July, and from explaining in their own way what happened in those days. It was then the rupture of these negotiations appeared to be irretrievable, that Rios Rosas decided upon dissolving the militia, and entering upon his present reactionary course.

Large quantities of grain continued to arrive in the ports of Spain, and all apprehension of a scarcity had vanished.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress intend to return from Biarritz on the 20th September, and will remain at St. Cloud until the beginning of December, taking, however, short excursions to Compiègne and Fontainebleau.

According to one of the numerous reports flying about, the Emperor is suffering under morbid affection of the spinal cord, and a Paris correspondent of a provincial contemporary affirms that the nephew of the great Bonaparte is occasionally a prey to strange and extraordinary hallucinations!

The first attack that was brought under the notice of the Court took place in presence of M. Fould, Minister of State, who having communicated to him important documents, was astounded and frightened to see his master remaining speechless, gazing or rather staring on vacancy. M. Fould ran out, terrified, telling every one that his master was insane! At that time the attacks lasted about five or six minutes; they extend now to half-an-hour or more. All this I hold from one of the chief Ministers of Louis Philippe, who, of course, has still a good many friends at Court. Add to this, another fatal affection, with an ugly Greek name, which is the result of a disease of the spinal cord, and you will have an idea of the mental and physical state of our present ruler.

It has been stated in some of the papers that a Muratist manifesto has been secretly but extensively circulated in Naples. This accords with the report of a movement in that party and with the assemblage at Aix-les-Bains. The *Times* Paris correspondent believes that the French Government in no way encourages or favours the Muratist views, and that the most it could be expected to do would be to *laissez faire*, in the unlikely event that the voice of the Neapolitan people summoned Prince Lucien to the throne.

The appointment of Marshal Pelissier to the governorship of Algeria is contradicted this week by the Paris correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge*. He writes:—

I have often spoken of the probabilities of Marshal Pelissier being appointed to the supreme command in Algeria. It seemed impossible to refuse this post to the earnest and frequently expressed wishes of the late Commander-in-Chief of the army of the Crimea. I learn, however, very positive to-day that the *status quo* will be maintained. The Emperor is said to have expressed himself in the most flattering terms regarding the marshal, but has given it to be understood that the title of Duke of Malakoff and the pension of 100,000 francs were intended by his Majesty to be in full of all claims for reward. The Emperor, moreover, has a due sense of the value of Marshal Randon's services, being well assured that he has not to apprehend from him that attitude of eventual resistance which it seems Marshal Pelissier assumed in the East whenever his instructions, no matter from how high a quarter they emanated, did not square with his own views.

The *Pays* has had a significant article on the Royalist movement at Neufchâtel. While professing not to believe that the King of Prussia has directly or indirectly fomented the insurrection, it insists upon his "incontestable rights," which he has never renounced, and says:—

It is probable that Prussia will take care by diplomatic action upon the Helvetic Diet to prevent any severe measures being taken against these insurgents whom the King continues to regard as his subjects; and perhaps these unexpected events may be the *point de départ* of negotiations destined to regulate a situation which is both irregular in point of public law, and dangerous to the internal security of the Confederation.

ITALY.

A letter from Ancona of the 25th August states that the Austrians are fortifying that place, having just erected a new covered battery below the lighthouse of the harbour, and having brought some new pieces of artillery to be placed on the existing fortifications. This does not look as if the Austrian occupation were intended to cease within a short time. The popular subscription, meantime, for the cannon to be mounted at Alessandria goes on very well at Ancona in spite of the police.

A letter from Brescia, in the *Italia e Popolo*, states that an address to the inhabitants of Lombardy has been circulated in and around that town, advising them to refuse payment of the taxes, and rather to let their goods be seized in default; those persons who should presume, in that case, to purchase the goods offered for sale at auction by the Austrian authorities are threatened with Republican vengeance.

The *Ost. Deutsche Post* affirms that a new note has been addressed to Naples by the Western Powers in concert. Its uncompromising terms will efface the

impression of the former note. M. Brenier, the French Minister, has expressed his utmost satisfaction with the document.

A letter from Rome dated August 25, in the *Voss Gazette*, says: "There is a talk of a collective note which the Italian Governments friendly to Austria, namely, Naples, Rome, Tuscany, Modena, and Parma, with Austria herself at their head, are said to be about to address to the Great Powers, with a view to put an end, or at least a limit to, the growing influence of Piedmont in Italy. To this note there is joined, it is reported, a memorandum intended to serve as an answer to that sent by Count Cavour to Paris. At the same time a fresh protest against the conduct of the Sardinian Government towards the clergy is in preparation at the Vatican."

Giuseppe La Farina has published a pamphlet in reference to the Murat movement, entitled "Murat e l'Unità Italiana," in which he argues that it is the interest of the Neapolitans to join with the other Italian States and choose the present King of Sardinia as their monarch. Poor Bomba is not even alluded to, but is treated as a thing of nothing. M. Farina says to the Neapolitans:—

On one side we have the House of Savoy, most inimical to Austria and Rome, our natural and inveterate enemies. On the other we have Murat, the cousin and creature of the Emperor of the French, who is the friend of Austria—at least apparently so—and besides, Louis Napoleon is the great support of Papal tyranny. In following the House of Savoy, we have made one step to the unity of Italy, and if fortune favours us, it has every prospect of being the decisive and final step; but if we follow Murat, we have introduced a new dynasty into Italy, and we shall thus be very far indeed from that unity to which all our hearts aspire. With the House of Savoy we can nourish the hope that we may have the independence and liberty of all Italy, but with Murat we are certain to have revolutions, insurrection, and wars, before our most ardent wishes are gratified. If we shout "Viva Victor Emmanuel," we are certain of having along with us all the other Italian provinces; but if we enlist under the banners of Murat, we must have a change of dynasty at Naples, and have upon us the Pope with the Papal States, and Austria with the Lombard and Venetian States, and all that slavish fry of princes at Florence, Modena, and Parma. But why should the idea ever enter our minds to prefer Lucien Murat to Victor Emmanuel? Victor Emmanuel has an army well disciplined and equipped, veterans in war and accustomed to fight against the Austrian, and while glorying in their victories in the Crimea they are burning with the desire to wipe out the mistakes of Novarra. Murat has on his side perhaps to the extent of thirty foreigners. Victor Emmanuel has a regular government, his finances well arranged, his credit good, and an excellent fleet; but Murat has none of these. Victor Emmanuel has the reputation of being a monarch always faithful to his word and oath, and he is a gallant and proved soldier, qualities which it is quite possible Prince Lucien Murat may possess in an eminent degree, but he has had no opportunity to give proofs. Murat has the sympathy of the present French Government. Victor Emmanuel, on the contrary, possesses the sympathies of every liberal government, and the warm wishes of all people aspiring to the blessings of liberty.

ROYALIST INSURRECTION IN NEUFCHATEL.

Since 1848, the canton of Neufchâtel has been a member of the Federal Union of Switzerland. Before that date it had been, for above a hundred years, possessed by the kings of Prussia. Suddenly the telegraph announced that, on the 3rd instant, the Royalists, in other words, the Prussian party, rose, crying "Vive le Roi!" carried the Château, seized the authorities, and hoisted the Prussian flag. A despatch from Paris, however, dated on Thursday, states that "the Federal troops had retaken the town, and the insurgent leader, Count Pourtale, has been arrested."

The *Bund*, under date of Berne 3rd, contains the following details of the events on the 3rd: "A body of from 200 to 300 Royalists obtained possession of the castle of Neufchâtel, and arrested three or four members of the Council of State; the Prefect of Neufchâtel, who was also to have been arrested, had time to escape. About 1,000 men were to have marched at the same time on Chaux-de-Fonds, but nothing is known of the result of their movement. The valley of Travers is averse to the revolution, and has sent for the assistance of troops to the canton of Vaud. The insurgents have published two proclamations, signed by Count Frederic Pourtale and by a certain De Meuron."

The following details are taken from the Bernese journal, *La Suisse*: "We have now the exact numbers of the losses experienced by the insurgents on the 4th inst. There are fifteen dead and eighteen wounded. Among the former is a young Count de Pourtale, Colonel Frederic de Pourtale, chief of the insurrection, is dangerously wounded, and a prisoner. Up to yesterday the number of prisoners exceeded 100. Since then numerous other arrests have been made. The Republicans are exasperated. It would be difficult to express all the energy the Federal Commissioners and Colonel Denzler had to exert to restrain the patriots, who wanted to make an end of the Prussian party."

Two proclamations, which were issued by the insurgents at Neufchâtel, seem to leave no doubt of the real character of their design. One of them was subscribed with the well-known motto of the *Kreuz Zeitung*, of Berlin—"Onwards, with God, for King and Fatherland," and it ran thus:—

Inhabitants of Neufchâtel.—The hour of your deliverance at length has now been sounded. Let the cry of "Long live the King!" be your watchword. Let the faithful fly to arms. I declare the territory of this principality in a state of siege. Each commune is to provide for the immediate establishment of a committee, which shall exercise its authority in the king's name,

and shall send notice to the castle of Neufchâtel when it enters upon the discharge of its functions.

The Commander-in-Chief,
Colonel Count FREDERICK DE POURTALES.

Another proclamation was the following:—

LA SAGNE, Sept. 2.
Long live the King! The Royal banner waves over the castle of our princes. People of Neufchâtel, let us return thanks to heaven! Let the faithful now rally about me!

The Commandant of the first arrondissement,
Lieut.-Col. DE METRON.

The insurgents belonged almost exclusively to communes of La Sagne, Les Ponts, La Brévine, and La Chaux du Milieu, which were known to be the stronghold of the Prussian party.

TURKEY.

The English squadron, under Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, has at last left the Black Sea and re-entered the Bosphorus, while the Russians have again taken possession of the fortresses of Soukoum Kalé and of Redout Kalé.

M. de Boutevief, the Russian Ambassador, had asked the Porte for permission for ten Russian vessels coming from the Baltic to pass through the Bosphorus. [Such a request would be in contradiction to the terms of the Treaty of Paris, which limited the Russian naval force in the Black Sea to six light vessels; it probably refers to the vessels possessed by Russia at Nicolaieff, which she may wish to transport to the Baltic.]

The trial for the murder at Varna, which had been temporarily suspended, was recommenced on the 26th, when nine fresh witnesses were examined. It was after this day's proceedings that Sulih Pasha was set at liberty, as it did not appear that he had either directly or indirectly taken part in the murder of the Bulgarian girl.

Omar Pasha has been entrusted with the command of the Turkish expedition against the Montenegrins. The *Agram Gazette* contains a letter from the port of Antivari, according to which shipments of troops for this purpose had begun on the 21st August. Six hundred men belonging to the regular army had at that time arrived on board a man-of-war; and it was expected that, by the 15th September, an army of 50,000 men would be collected.

Reports were current of a change in the Turkish Ministry, caused by differences of opinion relative to the questions of the Isthmus of Suez and the Principalities. With regard to the former, it is anticipated that all difficulties will be removed by the expected visit of the Viceroy to Constantinople. The return of Reschid Pasha to office is talked of. He would, it is thought, advocate the union of the Principalities.

The English colonels, Geales and Stewart, late British commissioners with the Turkish army of Asia, having terminated their mission, were about to return to Constantinople by a steamer which had been sent for them to Trebizond.

It is stated that Russia is not unwilling formally to renounce the Isle of Serpents, or any other Danubian Island that may have been left unmentioned in the Treaty of Paris, on the specific understanding, however, that the Allies will undertake to abstain from any further attempt to include the town of Bolgrad in that portion of the Bessarabian territory that is to be ceded to Moldavia.

AMERICA.

The Senate and House of Representatives reassembled respectively on the 21st ult., and it soon appeared that their mutual antagonism was more decided than before the adjournment.

A message from the President, setting forth the urgency of the Appropriation Bill, was read to the Senate. The President, detailing the position of affairs, said:—

To refuse supplies to the army, therefore, is to compel the complete cessation of all its operations, and practical disbandment, and thus to invite hordes of predatory savages from the western plains and Rocky Mountains to spread devastation along a frontier of more than 4,000 miles in extent, and to deliver up the sparse population of a vast tract of country to rapine and murder. Such, in substance, would be the direct and immediate effects of the refusal of Congress, for the first time in the history of the Government, to grant supplies—the inevitable waste of millions of public treasure—the infliction of extreme wrong upon all persons connected with the military establishment by service, employment, or contracts—the recall of our forces from the field—the fearful sacrifice of life, and incalculable destruction of property on the remote frontiers—the striking of our national flag on the battlements of the fortresses which defend our maritime cities against foreign invasion—the violation of the public honour and good faith, and the discredit of the United States in the eyes of the civilised world.

After this message had been read, on the 21st, the Senate adjourned; General Cass declaring that the days of the Republic were numbered. The House of Representatives met on the 21st, and immediately passed the Army Bill with the Kansas proviso, by 93 to 85. On the 22nd, it was carried up to the Senate; and there, without debate, the proviso was struck out, by 35 to 7. In the meantime, the electric telegraph had summoned several Democrats back to Washington. In the next division, the House again refused to strike out the proviso, by 96 to 94; and adhered to its disagreement with the Senate, by 97 to 93. Several unsuccessful motions were made to adjourn *sine die*. These failing, the House took a short recess to await the issue of the proceedings in the Senate; and on reassembling, and finding that the Senate had done nothing but debate, adjourned.

Both Houses of Congress adjourned on the 26th without adjusting their differences on the coming

Army Bill. Mr. Clayton introduced a resolution providing for the appointment of a joint select committee of seven senators and eleven representatives, to take into consideration the disagreeing votes of the two Houses, with the view of arranging the details and settling the differences between them. Senator Walker also introduced a measure embodying the 18th section of the bill providing for the admission of Kansas into the Union, which repeals the last act, and the laws restricting the freedom of the press and the liberty of speech, passed by the Territorial Legislature. Mr. Campbell, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, had prepared a new Army Bill, which might probably pass, excluding the restrictive proviso and providing for the repeal of the territorial laws of Kansas.

The *New York Journal of Commerce* remarks that as the proviso to the Army Bill was reduced to a single vote, there was a prospect that it might be altogether neutralised. "By the return of absent members, or by the second thought of one or more of the predominant faction, wearied by unavailing persistence in a course that tends to no good end. Meantime there are indications that efforts will be made to remove all pretext for obstructive action in the House, by the repeal of such provisions in the laws enacted by the Kansas Legislature as are justly obnoxious to public sentiment."

The Washington correspondent of the *Herald* states that the policy of the Senate was to sit the session through to March next, unless the Army Bill was sooner passed.

In the Senate on the 27th, Mr. Cass presented letters from General Persifer F. Smith, which he obtained at the War Department, giving an account of the movements of the United States' troops in Kansas. In these letters, General Smith states that the reports which had been going the rounds of the newspapers were gross fabrications, and that the troops had not done anything to interfere with the citizens, excepting to guard the prisoners charged with treason. After the reading of these letters, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill introduced by Mr. Weller, to repeal certain laws of the Kansas Legislature. Mr. Hunter stated that the Senate had already passed bills containing the same provisions as this, and sent them to the House. The Senate then adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. M'Queen asked, but did not obtain, leave to offer a preamble declaring it manifest that no Army Bill could be passed, and concluding with a resolution providing for the adjournment of Congress on the following Thursday.

Mr. Houston asked, but did not obtain, leave to offer a resolution requiring the Speaker to direct the Sergeant-at-Arms to bring absenteers to the bar of the House, excepting those excused on account of the sickness of themselves or families, and that each absentee be telegraphed to return, they paying their own expenses.

A special agent, Mr. Arny, from the Free-soil party of Kansas, was in Washington soliciting the President for assistance against their pro-slavery opponents. The Washington correspondent of the *Herald* states that the President, being too much engaged to grant him an interview, handed him over to his secretary, who informed the agent that the President was just then so much engrossed that he could not attend to the matter. With this consolation, Mr. Arny left his papers in the hands of the private secretary, and took his departure from the White House.

President Pierce was labouring under an attack of fever.

A great Republican meeting had been held at New Jersey, to consider the present condition of public affairs, at which large delegations were present from all the towns in the county.

The Washington correspondent of the *Tribune* asserts that the American State Council of North Carolina had determined to recommend all the lodges of the State to cast their votes for Buchanan instead of Fillmore. "The grounds for taking such a course are that the late elections have proved that Mr. Fillmore cannot carry a single Southern State, while there is no chance of his receiving any electoral votes from the North, and that it behoves the South to present a united front in such a crisis as that she has now to pass through."

Mr. Sumner is still very unwell. In a letter addressed to the Fitchburg Convention, and written in disobedience to his medical attendant, he says: "I am so feeble still that I am constrained to turn away from all temptations and opportunities of labour."

Full particulars are published of the expulsion from Mobile, by a Vigilance Committee, of Messrs. Strickland and Upson, booksellers, who were convicted, after due investigation, of selling incendiary publications. We are not apprised of the titles of the obnoxious works, but a Mobile paper, in its report of the affair, says that "the character of the evidence and of the books brought before the committee were such that it was thought not only injudicious but unsafe to make them public." Subsequent to the action of the committee, a large public meeting was held, and their course approved. The mayor of the city was present, and urged the audience to preserve order, assuring them that the action of the committee was perfectly satisfactory.

The Presidential election continues to excite much attention in the Union, and large meetings of the Fremont and Buchanan partisans have been held in different places. It is believed that the former gains considerably upon the latter.

The news from Kansas is still of wars and fighting. The statements by this mail are derived principally from pro-slavery sources: among others, that from the *Leavenworth Journal*, describing the surrounding of Lecompton by the Free-State men, and the rescue of Governor Robinson and the other

prisoners, will be found most important. The same journal announces that Lecompton had been taken, though of this event no particulars are given. In the meantime, Atchison and Stringfellow have been issuing most pathetic appeals to the "friends of law and order" for aid. They declare themselves to be out of ammunition, and implore the Missourians to "come over to their rescue before they are murdered." A call had been issued for a meeting to have been held at Lexington, on the 19th ult., and to which the people were directed "to bring up their horses, their guns, and their clothing, ready to go into Kansas." Four hundred of General Lane's men were on the north side of the Kansas river, for the purpose of intercepting those who might go to the relief of Lecompton. General Smith had gone to the relief of that town with a large body of troops. General Richardson, with a large body of territorial militia, had gone to the north-western part of the territory to cut off the retreat of General Lane, should he attempt to escape. Colonel Titus, who was wounded at Lawrence, was not expected to survive.

Advices from Nicaragua of the 9th, report that matters look ill for Walker. A body of Salvadorian and Guatemalan troops, headed by Cabanano, were posted at Leon. There were many desertions from Walker's army—in one case a whole company. Walker had revoked the exequatur of the British Consul at Leon. Another revolution had been put down in Costa Rica.

By the California mail to Aug. 19, we learn that the San Francisco Vigilance Committee was in full force, having made many additional arrests and executed two persons since the departure of the previous mail. Judge was still kept prisoner by the committee, though Hopkins, the man he stabbed, had recovered. One of the persons executed was a man, named Brat, who committed a murder upwards of a year before. Several attempts had been made to destroy both San Francisco and Sacramento by fire.

Later advices from Mexico report the country to be tolerably quiet. The black-vomit was raging violently at Vera Cruz. The Indians in the northern states were committing fearful ravages, and Vidaurri had taken advantage of the fact to call the people of Zacatecas to his aid, offering to defend them against the Indians. The Government of Mexico, fearing that the Tehuantepec expeditionists were filibusters, from their being sent with arms, were watching their movements. At the capital, the Government and Congress were acting harmoniously. The new Constitution was under discussion, and the liberal articles were in favour. There was an animated debate on the clause respecting religious toleration. The Cabinet opposed the measure as useless, but the puros adopted it. Congress had, however, adopted the 15th article of the new Constitution, establishing religious toleration.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

According to the *Moniteur du Loiret*, the water of the Loire, since the river has returned to its bed, has become so changed in its chemical composition that, on being analysed, it has been found to exactly resemble seltzer water. It remains to be seen how the trout and the other finny inhabitants of the river will appreciate this change.

The judgment of the Holstein High Court of Appeal in the impeachment of the Minister M. Von Schele has been pronounced. The Court declares against the competency of the tribunal before which the process has been brought, and dismisses the accusation.

The Government of the Sultan have purchased two steamers to ply on the Euphrates between Bagdad and Bassora.

Tampering with the telegraph is said to be much practised at Naples, and encouraged by the Government of King Ferdinand. The telegraph with England has been open two years, and it is alleged that the private messages of merchants and others "are divulged, the instant they arrive, to a set of monthly-subscribing speculators, who act upon them and affect the markets in most cases before the despatch has been delivered to the rightful owner." A commercial paper at Naples publicly gives the substance of each message, omitting the names of the receivers. The telegraph is under the control of Government, the officials being bound to hand a copy of each despatch as it arrives to the Ministers of Finance and Police.

A melancholy proof of the great distance a Minié rifle will carry a ball has been given at Magdeburg. Some soldiers were firing at a target at 1,000 paces; labourers were at work 700 paces beyond—that was thought to be a safe distance; but one of the poor fellows was mortally wounded by a bullet. [A sheep has been accidentally killed in England with the Enfield rifle from a distance of 2,500 yards.]

It is stated that the public may shortly expect to see a scheme for railways in Russia on an extensive scale, launched for its support under an Anglo-French Company. The Emperor of Russia is doing all in his power to render it acceptable and attractive to certain capitalists now investigating its commercial value.

The reported death of the celebrated German basso Staudigl is contradicted by the *Musical Gazette* of Berlin; but in doing so it adds that his health is still in a very alarming state.

There appears at present in Italy 311 newspapers, partly political, partly scientific and artistic. They are distributed over the peninsula in the following way: 85 appear in Lombardy, 87 in Sardinia, 5 in Parma and Modena, 33 in Tuscany, 30 in the Papal dominions, and 56 in the kingdom of both Sicilies.

The cholera is disappearing from Madeira: 5,000 have fallen victims in a population of 16,000. At Funchal the cases have been reduced lately to five or six daily. It is severe at Porto Santo. A subscription has been started in England. Mr. Samuel Phelps,

4, Rood-lane, Fenchurch-street, has consented to receive subscriptions.

"Another German prince," says a Berlin correspondent of the *Independence Bœuf*, "serving in the Prussian army, has sent in his resignation. His debts amount to 40,000 thalers. He was concerned in the affairs of the Jockey Club which resulted in the Hinckley duel."

I am enabled to state positively that within the last few days despatches from London have been sent to Lord Normanby, conveying, in terms such as are rarely used towards an ambassador, the greatest dissatisfaction of his Government at the manner in which he has misrepresented the views of England with regard to Italian affairs.—*Paris Correspondent of the Daily News.*

The Vienna Press announces that it is about to publish a German translation of Mrs. Stowe's new fiction, "Dred," in its feuilleton.

The intervention of Austria in the contests between Prince Danilo, of Montenegro, and the Turks, is more and more talked of as impending.

A letter from Vienna, in the *Cologne Gazette*, repeats the assertion that the Austrian troops will not evacuate the Principalities until Russia shall have formally consented to give up Bolgrad.

A letter from St. Petersburg says: A proposition of the Council of the Empire, giving new facilities for the importation of foreign goods, has been sanctioned by the Emperor. In virtue of it, "goods can remain in entrepôt for fifty days after their arrival on payment of moderate duties."

CORONATION OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

The following telegraphic despatch has been published, dated Moscow, Sunday, Sept. 7: "His Imperial Majesty the Emperor Alexander II. was solemnly crowned to-day, at twelve o'clock. The ceremony took place in the Uspenski Sobor, and the act of coronation was performed by Archbishop Philaret, the Metropolitan of Moscow. Among the special Ambassadors who were present were Earl Granville, Prince Esterhazy, M. Castaborgone, and the representative of the Sultan. The proceedings had all that august appearance which immense preparation had designed. An immense crowd assembled at the Kremlin Palace and in the streets, and very great enthusiasm was everywhere manifested. The ringing of bells, the firing of cannon, the parade of troops, the ceremonials of the Church, the procession to the Palace, and the decorations of the city rendered the whole affair most inspiring. The coronation was favoured by beautiful weather. Count Orloff was created a Prince, Prince Weronoff a Field-Marshal, and Generals de Berg and Soumarokhoff Counts."

The *Times* publishes a full and detailed account of the entry of the Czar into Moscow on the 29th ult., from the pen of its special correspondent, whom we take to be Mr. Russell himself. The following extracts give a vivid picture of the unique scene. We are told that the gorgeousness of the carriages and uniforms, liveries and horse trappings, was worthy of the Caesars, or of some of the great Oriental conquerors, and that the coronation will cost Russia no less than 6,000,000 roubles, or 1,000,000 sterling.

MOSCOW.

In Russia nothing must be regarded as destroyed or lost for ever. When the Winter Palace—a pile as large as Versailles—was burnt to the ground, the autocrat of so many millions, with the force and volition of a Cambyses or Xerxes in past ages, exclaimed, "On the anniversary of this day I will give a ball in a new palace on that very place," and at his word a mass of stone and marble rose by the banks of the Neva till that promise was fulfilled to the very letter. So when the blackened and shattered walls of the Kremlin, a few stone houses, and the shells of desecrated churches, were all that was left of Moscow, the popular will, guided by the Czar and the nobility, resolved that a fairer and a nobler city should spring up in the midst of the waste, on the identical spot where Napoleon imagined he had struck Russia to the heart. And thus, with loftier spires and simpler cupolas, in larger proportions, and more profuse elaboration, churches, palaces, Royal and princely mansions—this miraculous capital, the centre of the Russian's faith, of his devotion, of his patriotism, of his obedience, of his history, again stood on the plain of the Moskva. Following their instinct and their national characteristics, they scarcely sought to improve on the ways of their ancestors, and the forms and directions of the old streets were preserved almost intact; so that the tortuous Tartar thoroughfares are still visible in their type in the best quarters of the new city. All the eccentricities of Byzantine architecture are here developed and varied with traditional skill. The wild Tartars, who could not perpetuate their faith, have given at least to the Church of Russia some outward and visible signs of their religion, and the Mosque and the Greek chapel are here present, as it were, in perpetual silent conflict.

A STREET NEAR THE KREMLIN.

A dull heavy noise, like the single beat of a deep drum, is heard a long way off. It is the first *coup de canon* of the nine which announced that the Emperor is on his way to the entrance of his ancient capital. In a moment, far and wide the chimes of some 400 churches, scattered, as it were, broadcast all over the great city, ring out with stupendous clamour, which is musical in the depth of its tumult, and the crowd settles into an attitude of profound expectation and repose. For about 500 yards I could see up and down the street, which is about the breadth of Fleet-street. The pavements are narrow, but the extent of the route was so great, and the population of the city is so small, that the crowd, so far as I could judge, never was packed disagreeably, like a London mob, and the people could move and see what passed with facility. They could see, that is, if they could look over that wall of soldiery which stood like masonry before them, topped with a coping of shining helmets and crests of waving horsehair. The Infantry of the Guard were formed three

deep the whole length of the street; the space between the lines of the soldiery was covered with a fine red sand, carefully raked from time to time. Between the walls of the houses and the wall of men, the people, Mujiks and their families, the *petits bourgeois*, the townsfolk, and the peasantry, stood with their wives and children to feast their eyes on their Emperor. The houses, of large frontage, but rarely more than three stories in height, are alive with people; the upper windows are filled with faces; platforms erected in the front, at the height of the drawing-room floor, are crowded with ladies after the newest Paris fashions, officers, and the gentry, nobility, and strangers who have flocked to Moscow for the *fêtes*. These balconies are decorated with coloured calico or silk, with festoons of flowers and gay streamers; but there are no very striking devices, or any great evidence of a fanciful imagination in the ornaments; and it is probable that with the materials in hand the French would have produced a better effect; but, as it was, one could not but say that the result was very striking. The two lines formed by the soldiery are as strict and exact as those of the street itself, and the eye wanders down a long perspective of helmets, faces, red collars, green frocks, red cuffs, and white trousers, till they are diminished into mere streaks of colour in the distance. The officers dress the men within a hair's breadth, look along their chins and noses, till they are all in line, and then retire to their places in the ranks; again the careful sergeants and corporals go round and give their charges a last finishing touch, brush the dust off their shoes and crossbelts, and comb their moustaches.

THE EMPEROR'S ESCORT.

Behind them—but who shall describe these warlike figures which come on to their own music of clinking steel and jingling of armour? They fill up the whole roadway with a flood of colour. Such might have been the Crusaders, or rather such might have been the Knights of Saladin, when the cross and the Crescent met in battle. Mounted on high-bred, spirited horses, which are covered with rich trappings of an antique character, the escort of the Emperor comes by, and calls us at once back to the days of Ivan the Terrible. Their heads are covered with a fine chain armour—so fine, indeed, that some of them wear it as a veil before their faces. This mail falls over the neck and covers the back and chest, and beneath it glistens rich doublets of yellow silk. Some of the escort carry lances with bright pennons. All are armed with antique carbines, pistols, and curved swords. Their saddles are crusted with silver, and rich scarfs and sashes decorate their waists. Their handsome faces and slight sinewy frames indicate their origin. These are of the Circassian race which, mingling its blood with the Turks, have removed from them that stigma of excessive ugliness that once, according to old historians, affrighted Europe. Their influence on the old Muscovite type is said to be equally great, and the families which are allied with the Circassian, Mingrelian, or Georgians exhibit, we are told, a marked difference from the pure and unmixed breed of Russian origin.

Of a regiment of Cossacks of the Guard, it is said, the men are by no means of that hairy, high-cheeked, *retrossé*-nosed, and small-eyed kind identified in the popular mind with their name; and far different from the long-coated, round-headed lancers on scraggy ponies who so long kept watch and ward over us from Canrobert's-hill. These Cossacks were well mounted and well clad, and afforded the stranger a very imperfect notion of what the Cossacks are who plunder and burn in the front of an advancing enemy, sweep away its supplies, and hover round it to do anything but fight, unless at some enormous vantage. Following these came a large body of the *hauts noblesses* on horseback and in uniform, two and two, headed by the Marshal of the Nobility for the district of Moscow. Nearly all of these nobles were in military uniforms, those who were not wore the old Russian boyard's dress, a tunic glistening with precious stones, golden belts studded with diamonds, and high caps with *aigrettes* of brilliants. On their breasts were orders, stars, crosses, ribands, innumerable. Menschikoffs, Rostopchins, Galitzins, Woronoffs, Gortschakoffs, Strogonoffs, Cheremetieffs, Platoffs, Tolstoys, and the bearers of many another name unknown in Western Europe before the last century, were there, carrying whole fortunes on their backs, the rulers and masters of millions of their fellow men. They were followed by the

DEPUTIES OF ASIATIC RACES.

Here may be seen the costume of every age at one view, and all as rich as wealth, old family treasures, hoarded plunder, and modern taste can make it. Bashkirs and Circassians, Tcherkess, Abassians, in coats of mail and surcoats of fine chain armour, Calmucks, Tartars of Kazan and the Crimea, Mingrelians, Karapapaks, Daghestanis, Armenians, the people of Gouriel and Georgia, the inhabitants of the borders of the Caspian, Kurds, people of Astrakhan, Samoiedes, wild mountaineers from distant ranges to which the speculations of even the "Hertfordshire Incumbent" have never wandered, Chinese from the Siberian frontiers, Mongols, and strange beings like Caliban in court-dress. Some of them had their uncovered hair plaited curiously with gold coins; others wore on the head only a small flat plate of precious metal just over the forehead; others sheepskin head-dresses studded with jewels; old matchlocks that might have rung on the battle-fields of Ivan Veliki, battle-axes, lances, and scimitars and daggers of every form were borne by this gaudy throng, whose mode of riding offered every possible variety of the way in which a man can sit on a horse. Some rode without stirrups, loose and graceful as the Greek warriors who live on the friezes of the Parthenon; others sat in a sort of legless arm-chair, with their knees drawn up after the manner of sartorial equestrians. Every sort of bit, bridle, saddle, and horse-trapping which has been used since horses were subjugated to man could be seen here. Some of the saddlecloths and holsters were of surpassing richness and splendour. In the midst of all these cavaliers two attracted particular notice. One was a majestic-looking old Turk with an enormous beard and a towering turban, whose garments were of such a rich material and strange cut that one was reminded immediately of the figure of the High Priest

in Rembrandt's picture, or of the old engravings of the Sultan in old books of travel. The other was a young deputy from Gouriel, with clustering hair flowing down in curls from beneath a small patch of gold and jewels fixed on the top of the head, whose face and figure were strikingly handsome, and who was dressed in a magnificent suit of blue velvet crimson, flashing with precious stones. He was a veritable Eastern Antinous, and was well matched with his beautiful horse.

Then came a swarm of servants gorgeously attired belonging to the Imperial household. In a grand vehicle drawn by six horses attended by a footman, were seated, in uniforms of green and gold, two Masters of the Ceremonies of the Court, with huge wands of office. Other officials follow in like state, including the Marshal of the Court, in an open phaeton gilt all over, with his grand baton of office flashing with gems. Next the Grand "Chargé de la Cour," by fours, in gilt and crimson carriages. The members of the Imperial Council, in gilt carriages, followed the Grand "Chargé"—all that is esteemed wise in Russia, skilful in diplomacy, and venerated for past services, grave, astute, and polished nobles and gentlemen, whose lives have been spent in devoted efforts for the aggrandisement of their country and the promotion of the interests of their Imperial master, their breasts bore witness to the favour with which they have been regarded. A noise like distant thunder announces the approach of

THE CZAR.

In gilt casques of beautiful form and workmanship, surmounted by crest eagles of silver or gold, in milk-white coats and gilded cuirasses and back-plates, approach the giants of the first squadron of the Chevaliers Gardes of his Majesty the Emperor, each on a charger fit for a commander in battle. These are the picked men of 60,000,000 of the human race, and in status they certainly exceed any troops I have ever seen. All their appointments are splendid, but it is said they looked better in the days of the late Emperor, when they wore buckskins and jackboots, than they do now in their long trousers. The squadron was probably 200 strong, and the effect of the polished helmets, crests, and armour was dazzling. . . . The tremendous cheering of the people, and the measured hurrahs of the soldiers, the doffed hats and the reverences of the crowd, the waving of handkerchiefs, and the clash of presenting arms warn us that the "Czar of All the Russias, of the Kingdom of Poland, and of the Grand Duchy of Finland, which are inseparable from them," is at hand, and Alexander Nicolaievitch is before us. His Majesty is tall and well formed, although he does not in stature, or in grandeur of person, come near to his father. His face bears a resemblance to the portraits of the Emperor Nicholas, but the worshippers of his deceased Majesty declare that it is wanting in the wonderful power of eye and dignity and intelligence of expression which characterised the father. His Majesty is dressed in the uniform of a general officer, and seems quite simply attired, after all the splendour which has gone past. He wears a burnished casque with a long plume of white, orange, and dark cock's feathers, a close-fitting green tunic, with aiguillettes and orders, and red trousers, and he guides his charger—a perfect model of symmetry—with ease and gracefulness. His features are full of emotion as he returns with a military salute on all sides the mad congratulations of his people, who really act as though the Deity were incarnate before them. It is said that several times his eyes ran over with tears. To all he gives the same acknowledgment—raising his extended hand to the side of his casque, so that the forefinger rises vertically by the rim in front of the ear. The effect of his presence is considerably marred by the proximity of his suite, who have gradually and perhaps unwittingly closed up till they are immediately behind the horse, instead of leaving him isolated, as he was when he quitted the palace of Petrovsky. Thus it happens that, before he reaches the spot where the spectator is placed, he is nearly lost amid the crowd behind him; and that the moment he passes his figure is swallowed up in the plumed suite who follow at his heels.

Of the Grand Duke Constantine we are told that his keen stern eyes were piercing each window as he rode along. "A countenance with more iron will, resolution, and energy stamped upon it, one rarely sees, and the Russians are not unjustifiably proud of the ability and activity he displayed when the allied squadron was expected at Cronstadt. His features and form are cast in the Romanoff mould which the portraits of Alexander and Nicholas have made pretty well known among us." A very splendid staff followed the Prince.

THE EMPRESS-MOTHER AND THE EMPRESS.

The Empress Alexandra Feodowna, whose appearance excited the liveliest acclamations of the people, now passed before us, her feeble frame sustained by the part she had to play, so that she surprises those who know how weak and suffering she is when they see her *porte* and the graceful and animated bearing with which she acknowledges the cheers of the multitude. "Ah!" say they who think of the old Court, "who would ever imagine that she, who was a feather in the air suspended by a breath, should live to see this day, and that he—son *Dieu*—should have died before her!" Her Majesty was right royally or imperially attired, but how I cannot say. A cloud of light drapery through which diamonds shone like stars floated around her, and on her head was a tiara of brilliants. The carriage in which she sat was a triumph of splendour—all gold and crimson velvet; and on the roof, which was composed of similar materials, was the likeness of an Imperial crown. The eight horses, which were attached to the carriage by trappings and cords of gold, were the most beautiful in the Imperial stables, and each was led with a golden bridle by a palefrenier in grand livery. To hide from her the coachman's back, perforce turned towards Her Majesty's face, there was an array of little pages, who sat outside the coach on the rail with their backs towards the coachman's and their round visages *vis-à-vis* that of the Empress. As the carriage passes amid the thunders of 10,000 voices, another vehicle, if possible more magnificent, comes before us; and again the hurrahs of the troops

and the people ring through the air. The Empress Marie Alexandrovna is seated in this carriage, and by her side the little Grand Duke Vladimir Alexandrovitch, who is in full military uniform. Her Majesty seemed much affected as she bowed to the right and left, and acknowledged the salutations of the people with vivacity and *impassionement*. The boy seemed to take it all as a matter of course, and probably the arch-ducal mind was occupied by distracting thoughts of dinner. The equipment and attendance of the vehicle were the same as those of the Empress-Mother.

His Majesty's entrance into the Palace was announced by a salvo of 101 guns. During this time the bells never ceased to ring, nor the people to cheer and pray; and the aspect presented by the squares of the Kremlin, as the dense concourse of people with uncovered heads besought the blessing of Heaven on their Sovereign is described as something very grand and affecting. The procession and the proceedings lasted more than three hours. Till late at night the populace continued to throng the courts and squares, and soon after it was dark the palace and barracks of the Kremlin were brilliantly illuminated. The Corps Diplomatique witnessed the procession from the windows of the palace of a Princess who entertained them to dinner and gave a ball in the evening. No accident of a serious character occurred in the streets, nor was there the smallest disturbance or violence, although the police, by order of the Emperor, were kept out of view, and were not permitted to appear along the line of the procession. It is said that upwards of 500,000 persons were present at the ceremony, and their behaviour was certainly most exemplary. Upwards of 100,000 troops were concentrated near Moscow. It was anticipated that the illuminations on the night of the coronation would be most dazzling, and that an extraordinary *coup d'œil* would be visible; from the Kremlin an undulating expanse of twinkling fires would extend for many a mile like some new firmament. Every house in that vast city was provided with some external framework for the display of coloured lamps; the windows and the door frames, the very eaves, were furnished with light slips of wood, plain or painted, to which are affixed loops of wire for holding the small glass cups filled with oil and wick, which would furnish the larger part of the illuminations. The walls of the boulevards of the Kremlin, of the Government edifices—nay, the rails along the streets—would be decorated in a similar fashion, and the sky reddened by the glare of fires as wide-spread, but more harmless than those which lighted the French out of the ancient capital just forty-four years ago.

FALL OF A HOUSE AND LOSS OF LIFE IN THE CITY.

On Wednesday morning, at an early hour, the inhabitants of Moorgate-street, Lothbury, and its vicinity, were startled from their slumbers by a heavy crash and the springing of the police rattles. It was found that an old dilapidated house, of three stories, in Little Swan-alley, Moorgate-street, had fallen, and was one heap of ruins. The lifeless body of Elizabeth Pullen was first taken out, and removed to the dead-house in Coleman-street. After some further search, the bodies of a man named Palmer, and of Thomas Pullen, and James Pullen, were also taken out. They were alive, but died shortly afterwards. Five others were also dug out, all of whom were most seriously injured, and they remain in a most precarious state; and another five were released, who were not so severely injured as to require being sent to the hospital. The particulars of the accident will be best gathered from a statement made by Elizabeth Palmer, the wife of a dock-labourer who was killed with three of his step-children. The poor creature was almost convulsed with grief while narrating this tale. She said:—

We occupied the back room on the first floor of the house, for which I paid Mr. Crane two shillings a week rent. There were my husband and myself, the baby in my arms, my boy, who was out in a situation, and my other children—Elizabeth, James, and Thomas Pullen—by a former marriage. We lived in the one room. My husband is a dock labourer, and I am in the habit of going out washing and earning a trifle. I was out washing on Tuesday, and received 1s. 6d., and was very tired. My poor boy was kept later at work at his situation than usual, and so his life was saved. About nine o'clock, I was preparing my husband's supper, when I heard a noise as if the walls were cracking, and saw dust falling from the ceiling. I said to my husband, "Oh, I am sure the house is falling." He replied, that I was always thinking so, and that it was the man in the next room sharpening his knife. I said that would not cause the walls to crack or the dust to fall, and I was sure the house must be falling. Nothing further was said, however; we had our supper, and shortly after ten o'clock we went to bed. I am weaning the boy in my arms, and, in consequence of his crying, I got up about five minutes to twelve o'clock and gave him some milk. He fell asleep in my arms, when I felt the boards of the floor shaking under me. This was a few minutes after twelve o'clock. I felt the shaking of the floor more and more, and called out to my poor husband, "Oh, good God! the house is falling; save my poor children." He got up, put on his trousers, and was going to the corner of the room where my three children lay on the floor, to save them, no doubt. That is the last I saw of them. I ran to the stairs, screaming for Mrs. King to escape with her family. As I got towards the bottom of the stairs they gave way under me, and as the house fell I was thrown out, with my boy in my arms, on to the pavement in the court. I can recollect little more than that I and my baby were saved, and that we were nearly suffocated by the clouds of dust. My child was hurt by the fall. I have lately had strong doubts about the security of the house, and had talked to my husband about leaving. Last Saturday night week Mr. Crane called upon me for two shillings, the week's rent. I told him he had better have something done to the fireplace, for it was not safe, and the children would fall into the cellar some of these days. There was

a large crack by the side of the fireplace. He said he would call in a few days and look to it. He went away; but nothing has been done to the place or the house. I paid my rent last Sunday, and I am now in the most destitute circumstances. I earned 1s. 6d. by going out washing on the Tuesday, which I put under my bed, and I am in hopes I shall find it.

The other persons saved gave a similar account of the accident. The house would seem to have fallen in from the sheer rottenness of the rafters. A house immediately adjoining the fallen one, and which it had left in a dangerous state, was pulled down on Wednesday, with a view to prevent any further casualty of a similar kind.

The inquest on the bodies of the persons killed was held on Friday, before Mr. Payne, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The evidence of the different tenants showed that the house was in a most dilapidated condition, but they had not complained of it to Mr. Crane, the landlord. The district surveyor said the house presented no dangerous appearances from without; it fell simply from the rottenness of the ends of the joists and rafters. Mr. Crane, the landlord, said that he had never examined the main timbers of the house. He had no notion it was in danger of falling. Mr. Payne summed up, and the jury, after deliberating twenty minutes, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, accompanied with the following recommendation: "The jury earnestly recommend to the Commissioners of Sewers that they would authorise a special survey forthwith to be made of all buildings in the city of London, that from age, or other causes, may be supposed to be out of substantial repair."

THE HARVEST.

The almost uninterrupted fine weather of the past week has been of most material service in assuring the progress of harvest; the condition of the wheat lately gathered being far better than that so hastily got in (through fear of more rain), of which, however, there is a considerable quantity. With better success in securing the crops, the markets have continued in an unsettled state, but a positive decline of a serious amount is the great characteristic of the week, especially on the new wheat out of condition. It does not appear that the sprouting will be very serious in the aggregate, though cases of individual damage will be heavy. Berkshire seems to have suffered more than many counties, but scarcely any are wholly exempt from some deterioration. The last samples from Kent and Essex show inferiority in colour, weight, and dryness, which must secure a demand for all descriptions of old, especially of fine quality. The successive fallings-off in the weekly sales speak too plainly as to the exhaustion of the last crop of English wheat, and there is little fine old foreign to substitute for it; prices may, however, yet further decline on a continuance of dry weather. More unfavourable accounts from the north of Ireland of the wheat harvest in yield and quality must, certainly, occasion inquiry in that quarter, and we have yet to see what Scotland produces.—*Mark Lane Express.*

At the Corn Market on Monday, the supply of English wheat was good, nearly the whole of it of the new crop, and both the quality and condition inferior. The trade ruled extremely heavy for new wheat, the finest descriptions were fully 5s. per qr., and inferior 5s. to 7s. per qr., cheaper than this day week.

In nearly every part of Devonshire the corn has been gathered in, and it is the opinion of competent judges that the wheat, barley, and oat crops will be above the average. Many hundred acres of wheat in this county have been sold standing at from 11s. to 12s. per acre. The potatoe and turnip crops are uniformly excellent; but the apple crop is an entire failure.

The harvest has commenced in the north of Scotland, and many fields have already fallen under the sickle. The crops of wheat, oats, and barley are all far above the average of the last few years. Potatoes are an abundant crop. The disease has been checked by the fine dry weather of this month, and is not likely to appear again. Turnips are in excellent condition, and the aftermath of the hay crop is most luxuriant.

The report of a distinguished contributor to the columns of the *Times*, "J. C." [James Caird?] of the probable harvest in the North of Europe is very favourable. "J. C." had travelled from Ostend, via Cologne, to Magdeburg, when he wrote his report. The crops had been unusually large through this stretch of country; but as the weather had been unpropitious, much of them had been spoiled for the English market.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Sept. 10.

RESTORATION OF KARS.

By intelligence from Constantinople, it appears that the province of Kars was evacuated on the 9th ultimo by the Russians, who retired upon Alexandropol. The *Times* has a letter from Constantinople, August 28, giving an account of the evacuation:—"Kars has been evacuated by the Russians. The Turks took possession on the 6th inst. Three of the English officers attached to the British commissary with the Turkish army in Asia, Major Stuart, Major Fraser, and Mr. Evans, were present at the surrender, not in their official capacity, but as spectators. These gentlemen went to Kars before Hussein Pasha and his force, and were received in their quality as visitors with the greatest attention.

Their stay was celebrated by festivals with streams of champagne and numberless toasts, among them that of General Williams, with a salute from the guns of the citadel. As in the Crimea, the Russian officers seem to have been very communicative on past events, especially about the main subject of interest, their unsuccessful attack on Kara. They say that Mouravieff was entirely against an attack, and opposed it to the last moment, in spite of the urgent entreaties of several of his officers. But the troops were so dissatisfied at this seeming want of confidence in their leader, that he was in the end obliged to yield, against his own better conviction, and ordered the attack. Neither the failure of the attack nor the heavy losses sustained seem to have, even for an instant, occasioned the idea of a retreat, and General Mouravieff, when asked in the evening after defeat what his orders were, is said to have replied, 'Draw in your posts and double the patrols.' When Kara was evacuated, the Russians had 5,000 men on the territory, under the command of General Kruhlaff. The town was given over with the usual ceremonies. The account which I gave you in my last about the destruction of a part of the citadel walls, proves to be correct. The destruction is, however, only partial, orders having been received to stop it. It was likewise by orders from St. Petersburg that the work of destruction was commenced."

CORONATION OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

The *Daily News* publishes a letter from its special correspondent at Moscow, dated Sept. 1, giving a description of a review of the troops, the railways in projection, and a visit to the grand opera. The moment the public entry and the subsequent banquet at the Kremlin Palace had been disposed of, the Imperial family, fatigued with the parade of state, retired to a villa of Count Sheresnoff (the great Russian millionaire, and owner of 300,000 serfs), situated about thirty-eight versts from Moscow, whence his Imperial Majesty comes occasionally to the camp to inspect the troops. Military pageantry, he says, seems to be the great delight of all classes in this country. To-day, to-morrow, and Wednesday, there are to be grand reviews. The coronation has attracted to St. Petersburg and Moscow an immense contingent of railway speculators and contractors from England, America, France, and Belgium, all anxious to ascertain the intentions of the Imperial Government with respect to the construction of great arterial lines. The great line from Moscow to Warsaw is in course of construction under the auspices of the Government, and another equally gigantic undertaking, the Moscow and Odessa line, is under consideration. The Russian Government is in no hurry in the matter.

As a proof of this caution, I can cite the Emperor's own words, uttered only yesterday during a presentation. It is usual with his Majesty when strangers are presented, to ask them "Whether this is their first visit to Russia, and what has attracted them?" On the occasion to which I allude, the question was put to a Belgian, who promptly answered that he came with a view to the establishment of railways. "Ah!" said the Emperor, "we want railways, but we must wait two or three years yet." The same question was subsequently put by the Empress to the same individual, and on receiving the same answer, her Majesty said, "Yes, we want railways much; but I fear the country is too large for us to think of them."

The following is the programme of the remaining coronation business:—20th, 21st, 22nd (Greek time), reviews; 23rd, 24th, 25th, proclamation; 26th, coronation, illumination, and for following two days; 27th, 28th, 29th, congratulations from various public bodies, including the Russian lord mayors; 30th, grand procession to church; evening, spectacle gala at the theatre. Then follows a long list of balls, imperial and ambassadorial, until the 12th September; open air fete to the people, then more dinners and balls down to the 18th, when all will finish with the *feux d'artifice*. The operatic performance was very pleasing—the audience being mainly composed of officers in gorgeous uniforms, and ladies in grand toilette.

It only wanted the presence of the Emperor and Empress, whose box is a little palace in itself, to make the picture complete. The embassies of the great Powers were well represented, the French filling one box on the grand tier, and the English another. Amongst the latter I recognised Lady Emily Peel, Lord Ward, Messrs. Fane and Currie, &c. The two ambassadors were also present, Lord Granville in a box, and Lord Wodehouse in a pit-stall. They left early, there being, I believe, a ball at the embassy. The opera was "Puritani," in which Bosio's singing so delighted the Russians that she was called several times before the curtain. I have just room to mention that Mr. William Gladstone and some other English civilians were presented yesterday.

Marshal O'Donnell has received, from his Majesty the Emperor of the French, the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour.

Admiral Stewart has left two cruisers off the Isle of Serpents.

The Russian General Todleben, who is now in Germany and had intended to visit the fortified towns of Piedmont, has been recalled to St. Petersburg.

"Sir Hamilton Seymour," says the *Cologne Gazette*, "has remitted to Count Buol a note from his Government, which details the reasons that prevent the immediate evacuation of Greece."

A Paris letter, in the *Indépendance de Brussels*, says: "It is said that there is a community of views between France and Prussia on the Neufchâtel affair. The latter proposes to abandon any pretensions to the Canton of Neufchâtel, in return for an indemnity to be fixed by common accord, under the mediation of the great Powers of Europe. The Congress of Paris, which is about to reassemble to settle the

points left undecided as to the frontiers of the Danubian Principalities, will probably terminate the Neufchâtel affair once for all."

On Monday the anniversary of the taking of Sebastopol, the Duke of Malakoff and a large number of general and other officers attended a solemn mass at the Madeleine, in commemoration of the officers of the staff who died in the East. In the evening, most of the staff officers dined together at the *Trois Frères Provençaux*.

The French Government has prohibited M. Manin from receiving the subscriptions which he proposed to do for the purchase of cannon for Piedmont. The Austrian chargé d'affaires, in the absence of M. de Hubner, sent a note last week to Count Walewski inquiring whether France, as the ally of Austria, would suffer the ex-President of the republic at Venice to take a step in Paris which was evidently a demonstration against Austrian interests. Count Walewski replied in the most friendly manner that the French Government had already taken the initiative in anticipation of Austria's reasonable wishes, and that the subscription would not be allowed to proceed.

Marshal Narvaes lately had an interview of four hours' duration with the Duke de Riansares, Queen Christina's husband. It is confidently reported that, instead of going to winter in Rome, she will find means to be received at Madrid before long.

The O'Donnell Cabinet is, notwithstanding the common form repeated in all telegraphic despatches, that it is "thoroughly united," split up into at least three contending factions. The *Débats*, which has all along been the advocate of the *coup d'état*, now admits that the Ministers of Finances and Marine will probably retire on account of their disagreement with their colleagues on the law of *amortisation*.

The *Press* of Brussels states, that Mlle. Johanna Wagner, the celebrated singer, was married on Saturday last to M. Jochmann, the son of a millionaire, of Tilsit.

Lord Palmerston arrived in town yesterday morning from St. Leonards.

The Prince of Wales, attended by his tutor, Mr. Gibbs, will leave Osborne on or about Saturday, the 20th instant, for Manchester. On the Monday following, as at present arranged, he will commence his inspection of some of our larger cotton manufactories. The period of his stay will probably not exceed a couple of days. After leaving Manchester, the Prince will join Her Majesty at Balmoral.—*Manchester Guardian*.

The Queen has consented to lend a considerable number of pictures from Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, to the Manchester Exhibition of Art Treasures. Many of these pictures are now placed in the audience chamber of Buckingham Palace.

The British Museum was on Monday re-opened to the public, after being closed for a week. The hours of admission to the department of antiquities, natural history, &c., are now from ten in the morning to five in the afternoon; to those having the privilege of admission to the reading-room, the hours are now from nine in the morning to five in the afternoon.

With respect to the whereabouts of James Sadler, the Carlow paper says that the police are on the wrong scent, and that there is every reason to believe that the fugitive is now far on his way to South America, "where there appears to be little doubt that he will be afforded the opportunity of embracing his brother John."

The mission at Naples, vacant by Sir William Temple's death, will, we hear, be reserved for Sir Henry Bulwer, after he shall have returned from his present temporary employment in the Principalities.—*Daily News*.

It is satisfactory to hear that the appeal which has been made on behalf of the son and two surviving daughters of Henry Cort, and which has been backed up by the approval of the most eminent engineers and iron-founders in the kingdom, is now beginning to tell. The names of Messrs. Maudslay and Field, and Mr. Robert Stephenson, are first on the list of contributors.

The reduction of the army will, we believe, take place from the 1st of October, when all regiments of the line that served in the Crimea will be placed permanently on a peace establishment of twelve companies. As these regiments had been raised to sixteen companies, the reduction of twelve companies will necessarily send a large number of officers on half-pay. Nominally, the reduction of men will, however, appear greater than it really is; for, of course, all the vacancies in other regiments will be supplied, so far as they can, from the regiments in course of reduction. Henceforth the strength of the regiments of British Infantry will stand at 1,000 rank and file.—*Daily News*.

To-morrow (Thursday) and Friday the final flower and fruit show of this season in the Crystal Palace will be open to the public for a shilling. Considering the size of the show, and the high-class character of the flowers and fruit exhibited, this is probably without a parallel in horticultural exhibitions. Military bands will be in attendance on each day, besides that of the company. It is expected that the show of fruit will be one of the most magnificent ever seen.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

A very limited supply of English wheat—both old and new—was on sale in to-day's market. The factors were decidedly firmer in their demands than on Monday; yet the business doing was very moderate, at that day's decline in the quotations. Foreign wheat—the show of which was by no means extensive—sold slowly, yet late rates were well supported. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow inquiry. We had a dull inquiry for both barley and malt, at Monday's currency. There was a good demand for oats, beans, and peas, at full prices. Flour sold to a fair extent, at Monday's decline. The top price of town-made was 60s per 280 lbs.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1856.

SUMMARY.

SHEFFIELD has this week been the theatre of two public gatherings, each suggestive of its own reflections. The Roebuck demonstration shows us that, though the apathy of the people in political matters is almost unexampled, it is not because of any lack of patriotism, or of intelligence to understand what is required for good government, or of ability to appreciate the merits and sacrifices of those who have "done the State some service." The honourable member for Sheffield exhibits his title to the confidence of his constituents and countrymen, by tendering free and honest advice as to the future. The Roebuck programme has the merit of simplicity. He seeks to obtain efficient government, but avows that it is only to be got through a reform of the Commons' House of Parliament. As, however, the people would turn away from a Reform Bill just now, though laid before them "by an angel of light," he advises that the best use should be made of the present Parliament and electoral system—that candidates should be selected rather for their integrity, than their wealth or position—and that a new organisation, to realise administrative reform, should be formed within the House, which might act independently of party and ministerial combinations. Mr. Roebuck has done well to revive the vital question of reform, which *must* be fully canvassed ere the advent of a general election. In the Cutler's Feast we see the evidences of improved feeling in spite of political differences—of that practical improvement which is ever going on whether Parliament sits or adjourns—and the multiplication of discoveries and ties, such as Mr. Bessemer's new process in the manufacture of iron, and the gigantic cable shortly to span the Atlantic, which increase the wealth and productive resources of the country, and increase the guarantees of the preservation of peace. At the one meeting an honest patriot, in the person of Mr. Roebuck, was rewarded; at the other the services of a conscientious and maligned statesman, the Duke of Newcastle, were emphatically acknowledged.

The stoppage of the Royal British Bank, founded upon the Scotch system, excites some uneasiness as to our commercial stability, taken in connexion with the recent failures arising out of the Sadler case, and the disasters caused by Paul and Strahan's bankruptcy. So far as at present appears, the calamity is the result rather of improver or imprudent management, than any unsoundness of the principle on which the Bank was based. The depositors are likely to be paid in full, by instalments extending over nine months, but the prospects of the shareholders are gloomy in the extreme. Notwithstanding the large number of new schemes now before the public, there seems no good reason for believing that trade and commerce are in an unsound state. As a result of this failure, other joint-stock banks may be hard pressed; but there is reason to hope that they will all surmount the crisis. The high price of money at the present moment is a benefit rather than an injury to commerce, while the great failure of last week teaches a lesson of circumspection in all mercantile transactions and investments which it were folly to disregard.

While the Conservative leaders and their organ, the *Press*, are counselling the abandonment of the anti-Maynooth movement, as detrimental to their party interests, Mr. Spooner, though more

than seventy summers have passed over his head, is ready to renew his efforts "to put down the national sin of supporting the idolatrous College of Maynooth." The conscientious devotion of the honourable member for North Warwickshire to the duty he has imposed on himself, atones for his grammatical blunders. In Ireland, at least, his supporters are as enthusiastic as ever. At the Belfast meeting, at which his letter was read, the audience "knelt in prayer," and resolved to go on with the anti-Maynooth agitation, whatever the consequences. The Dublin Protestant Association has initiated a movement for sending petitions to Parliament on the subject from every parish in Ireland. Mr. Disraeli will find that he has very sturdy opponents to his *laissez faire* system in men who denounce the Maynooth endowment as "a sin against Almighty God, and the cause of dishonour, disgrace, demoralisation, and manifold dangers to the United Kingdom and to the empire at large." The appeal will, ere long, be transferred from St. Stephen's to the hustings, and there is good reason to believe that the feeling against Maynooth, as well as other ecclesiastical grants, is too strong to be ignored at a general election by any party.

The same pen which has immortalised British heroism in the Crimea is now engaged in presenting us with a picture of the greatest pageant of modern times. Englishmen at their breakfast tables are able to peruse an account of the grand doings at the coronation of the Emperor Alexander, which Russian citizens cannot obtain. Such a national demonstration as that which ushered the entrance of the Czar into the ancient capital of his ancestors in the presence of half a million of his subjects, can be "got up" in no other country in the world. From the whole description of the event, we learn not only the puissance of the Emperor of All the Russias, the countless tribes that own his sway, and the idolatry of a superstitious people, but the inexorable tyranny of tradition. The Czar, though an absolute ruler, is the slave of customs and ideas foreign to his enlightened mind. It remains to be seen whether he is able to wield that power which he exercises over sixty millions of the earth's population for material and social development, instead of employing the vast resources at his command in the infliction of suffering and devastation. Moscow is now connected with Europe by the electric wire, which brings us news of last Sunday's grand ceremonial. European ideas must be carried into that vast and hitherto almost unknown region by western travellers, to help on the great change which the war has commenced. The Czar cannot escape the many influences that beset him. The generals and nobles who surround him, as in the olden time, are jostled by railway contractors and engineers, clamorous to be allowed to intersect the steppes of Russia with the iron forerunners of social revolution—and they are listened to.

Royalist revolutionists have many convenient modes of encouraging and profiting by disorder, while apparently disowning it. During the week, there has been an attempt to seize the government of the Canton of Neuchatel by a *coup d'état* in the interest of the King of Prussia. Count Frederick Pourtales, a Prussian nobleman, took the castle of that city, hoisted the Prussian flag, and issued a proclamation appealing to the loyalty of the former subjects of Frederick William. But the Neuchatelese have been too well satisfied with their connexion with the Swiss Union since 1848, to desire a change. The insurrection was a miserable failure, and speedily put down by a few Federal battalions. How far this movement was countenanced by that special friend of "order," the King of Prussia, we have no means of knowing. It could scarcely have been entered upon without his connivance. But while his foolish partisans will have to pay the penalty of their crime, he himself is likely to profit by it. His claim to rule over a population that repudiates him, it is proposed to purchase by a money indemnity to be fixed by the Great Powers. Elsewhere we see how Royalist pretenders can invoke "the sacred right of insurrection" when it suits their purpose. The Murat family is again endeavouring to originate a movement for the throne of Naples. Proclamations are issued on their behalf without of course involving Prince Murat in any personal responsibility, and which can be repudiated, if circumstances require. The Emperor of the French tacitly permits an agitation which a word of his could allay, though, when it has become hopeless, he also will be ready to denounce it. Meanwhile, it seems that the two Western Powers have made another, and, in this instance, united effort to influence the King of Naples, but with no more success than before.

Marshal O'Donnell totters in the seat he has so recently and criminally obtained. The Queen of Spain and her camarilla are too strong for the military chief, who, having dissolved the National Guard, invaded the municipal liberties of the people, and dismissed the Constituent Cortes, is no longer needed by the Moderado faction.

His precarious position is visible in the resolution to which he has come, to permit the return of Queen Christina to Madrid, though he has hitherto publicly declared all government to be impossible with her presence, and to decree the restoration of all her property sequestered since 1854. It is not likely that even this extreme measure will save the merciless chief, who has broken with the Progressistas without conciliating the Moderados. The advent of a new Ministry and the restoration of Church property are among the probabilities of the near future, and the means of insuring the downfall of the Bourbon dynasty in Spain.

The conflict between the two branches of the United States Legislature was resumed at the opening of the extra session convened by President Pierce, and has continued ever since with little prospect of a speedy termination. Various plans of arrangement have been proposed, but the sturdy Representatives refuse to pass the Army Appropriation Bill without the important proviso they have attached to it. Though the majority counts in units, there is *always* a majority when a division takes place as large as that which eventually wore out pro-slavery obstinacy at the beginning of the session, and placed the Free-soil Mr. Banks in the chair. President Pierce is paying the penalty of his subservience to Southern lawlessness by ill-health brought on by the anxieties of his position. The Union seems to be in real danger, though little importance is to be attached to the declarations of pro-slavery alarmists like General Cass, who declares that the days of the republic are numbered. Amongst the signs of the perilous nature of the crisis, is the public appearance of men of moderate views and retiring habits, to swell the movement against Southern usurpation—as for instance, the venerable Mr. Quincy, now in his eighty-fourth year, who has retired from public life for well-nigh a quarter of a century. This experienced statesman has once more buckled on his armour in the cause of freedom, and in an address to the young men of New England, speaks of the attempts of the slaveocracy to obtain possession of Kansas by any and every means, as subversive of the American constitution. He reiterates Washington's warning that "change by usurpation is the customary weapon by which free Governments are destroyed"—and with all solemnity declares that "the Free States are undeniably, at this day, in that very state of things in which the warning voice of Washington declared resistance to be a duty." The battle of freedom in the States is being more emphatically fought out in Kansas and the North than within the walls of Congress.

JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK.

If any man in England is entitled to a public recognition of his services, surely John Arthur Roebuck may lay claim to that distinction. We are glad, therefore, that his countrymen, and especially his constituents, have agreed to do him honour, and have carried their resolution into effect. On Wednesday evening last, Mr. Roebuck was presented with a purse of eleven hundred guineas "in commemoration of his worth as a liberal, patriotic, and distinguished statesman," and it was resolved to place a full length portrait of him in one of the public buildings of the town of Sheffield. The testimonial, intended, as we are told by the Mayor of Sheffield, "not to recompense Mr. Roebuck for his services, but as a manifestation of grateful feeling for his general conduct as a public man," was handed to that gentleman at a public meeting held in the borough which he so well represents, and, of course, was acknowledged in a characteristic speech.

All men, if they knew it, have what it is the fashion of the day to call a special "mission"—in other words, have both the faculty and the opportunity of discharging some particular duty with more advantage than others—and all men who have self-knowledge and self-respect enough to prosecute that mission achieve for themselves a good title to the esteem of their fellows. One of the greatest errors, at all events one of the commonest, of the political criticism of the times, is that of estimating a public man's claim upon the gratitude of his country by the resemblance which he bears to some other public man, instead of by his faithful development of what is individually *his own*. The effect is that we have swarms of imitators, and but few originals. Mr. Roebuck deserves praise because throughout his public life he has aspired to be himself, and not another. He has had his opinions and retained them. He has had his sense of duty, and has abided by it. He has had his consciousness of power, and has refused to barter it away. He has had his sphere of service, and he has filled it. He despairs borrowed plumes, wisely preferring his own. He cannot do what many men have done, nor does he attempt it—but he has uniformly done well what no other man could do so well as he.

Mr. Roebuck is "angular." All men are who

have a purpose and stick to it. The inflexible will, when resolutely asserted, is always accounted sharp-edged by the more pliant wills with which it jostles. More especially is this felt when, as in Arthur Roebuck's case, a man aspires to the function of keeping other men's consciences in order. To style him "the accuser of the brethren" would be a calumny—but it seems to be his business and his public use to drop down upon guilt. When any leader of party is playing a game of delusion with his followers which all are sensible of, but none rebuke, up rises Mr. Roebuck and points at him the finger of well-deserved scorn. When party itself is beside itself, and hugs to its bosom some worthless but gilded sham, Roebuck is sure to put himself in the way, and make the hollowness of it ring through the country. He is a veritable iconoclast. His function is to censure—his work is to destroy—to censure dishonesty—to destroy false pretences. He makes mistakes at times, as all men do—but, in the main, he smites just what and where the people would have him to smite. Although his mission is not, in the ordinary sense of the term, an amiable one, nor his reputation much to be coveted, England ought to be thankful that she has one such man in the House of Commons—one representative of the honest contempt and indignation which the people "out of doors" feel at meanness in public men or parliamentary cliques, and which Roebuck only can naturally, and, therefore, authoritatively express.

The position which Mr. Roebuck has won for himself in Parliament is, like the man, *sui generis*. He is honoured, but not followed—listened to with eager attention, but not often with pleasure. That pleasure which he does give, is the pleasure which men take in witnessing a painful, however necessary, operation skilfully performed. To constructive talent he has no well-founded pretension, and, we fear, he is but ill-qualified for office. To originate is not his *forte*, but to criticise, and to criticise character rather than measures. His perception is keen—his method clear and direct—his style terse, compact, and full of points—his demeanour calm, self-possessed, and somewhat imperious. He never wastes words. He never wearies his audiences with the length of his speeches. He never speaks but when he has something to say. In all these respects, he contrasts very forcibly with the other lawyers in the House of Commons—and the contrast is immensely in his favour. No man states a case more neatly or in fewer words than he—no man deduces from it a moral more naturally or more convincingly—no man points that moral more unhesitatingly. There is no concealment about Mr. Roebuck—he speaks what is in him, and he speaks it unblinkingly. He says what many other men think, but what they have not the honesty, or the nerve, or the power to say. Of his political purity none can doubt. He is an able man—he is a lawyer—he is a public man of considerable standing—and he is far from a rich man—but he has sold himself to no party—he has never submitted to the trammels of office. His ambition has been to serve the people, and he has done it incorruptibly.

Nor has his service been of trivial value. Representative government owes much to his exposure of Election Compromises some fourteen years ago. But for his courage, his tact, his steadfastness at that crisis of our parliamentary history, it is doubtful whether, by this time, a seat in the House of Commons would have been accessible by any other means than by the power of the purse, and the favour of election-agents. He was on that occasion the true "advocate of the people," and whatever growth there has been of purer feeling in regard to electoral proceedings, may be fairly ascribed to Mr. Roebuck's timely and admirable service at that time. Last year, he achieved for the nation a still more valuable result, under still more trying circumstances. Our army lay perishing in the Crimea, under the withering touch of official misrule and military imbecility. Gloom was on every brow—misgiving in every heart. There was dissension in the Cabinet. There was lack of purpose in Parliament. It was at this awful moment that Arthur Roebuck stepped forward, spite of physical weakness and suffering, demanded investigation of the causes of this calamity, obtained it at the cost of the break-up of the Aberdeen Administration, conducted it with ability, zeal, and singleness of purpose, and by means of it laid the foundation of an inevitable and thorough Army Reform. We need not enumerate his minor political services. The two we have specified would suffice to crown any man with a chaplet of unfading laurels. Verily, he has well earned his fame.

Of Mr. Roebuck, as Chairman of the Administrative Reform Association, we are unable to speak. Time and events will show how far he is adapted to that responsible post. This, however, we can say, that he has the sympathies and good-wishes of the great bulk of his countrymen. He is now front to front with an antagonist whose

name is Legion. He has to do for the people of England, what he did last year for England's army. He will require not merely courage, but skill, judgment, we may add, genius. But, after all, we know not whether all may not be comprised in that qualification to which Mr. Roebuck ascribes his past success, "steadfastness in that path which I marked out for myself in the beginning." We are glad that his friends have seen fit to cheer him on his way. We trust they have refreshed his spirits. We hope he will be spared for many years of growingly useful public service—for sure we are—and we say this without any blindness to his faults—that there are few public men whose absence from the House of Commons would be more to be regretted by the people of these realms than JOHN ARTHUR ROEBUCK.

PROPOSED REVIVAL OF TRANSPORTATION.

An imperious big brother of the Fourth Estate, who not long ago declared war against the United States, has now decreed what is almost tantamount to war upon our colonies,—viz., the revival of convict transportation. "It is absolutely necessary," says the *Times* of Saturday last, "to revert to transportation." Remembering, as everybody must, by what process and what prospects, the Government was induced to abandon that system,—remembering that the Australians unmistakably threatened to meet an arrival of convicts as the Americans treated our taxed tea, and that the Cape Colonists actually prevented the discharge of a convict ship upon their shores,—we do not feel quite reconciled to the alleged necessity, by the declaration that "for the home population, who get rid of their criminals; the criminals, who are transported to a new region; and the colonists, who obtain a supply of much needed labour," transportation is the best mode of punishment that has yet been devised." There is such a perverse tendency in mankind to prefer pleasure to interest, and so strong an objection, in particular, to compulsory benefits, that we cannot feel assured, by this reasoning, of colonial willingness to receive back our refuse population. Nor are we convinced by the representation that it was only to excessive and unregulated transportation that the colonists objected. The pains that are taken to distinguish the abuse of the old system from the system itself—the emphasis that is put, by the *Times* writer, and by witnesses before the late committee, upon the proportion of convicts to free emigrants hereafter to be observed,—strengthen our own opinion that there is an intention somewhere to re-commence, with or without the authority of Parliament and the agreement of the colonies, a practice that will infallibly either rend or rob our colonial empire.

The *a priori* justification of this project will be attempted by reference to the resolutions of the Select Committee on Transportation, the principal of which are as follows:

1. That the punishment of transportation is more effectual and deterring, better adapted for the ultimate reformation of convicts, and more beneficial to this country than any other secondary punishment for serious crimes which has yet been tried.

2. That the committee therefore recommend the continuation of the sentence of transportation, so far as Her Majesty's dominions may afford safe and proper facilities for that purpose.

The first of these resolutions may be allowed to pass without challenge, but not without remark. Assuming its substantial truth, we are bound to ask why it is true? Clearly, because while the criminal class associate ideas of great hardship with the preliminary stages of transportation, the members of that class who survived those stages seldom returned to relate their subsequent experience—preferring to remain in the colony, where they would be tempted neither by reproach nor poverty. But would this be equally true of transportation to any spot in Her Majesty's dominions which "may afford safe and proper facilities?" Certainly not. Either the "deterring" influence of the punishment must be sacrificed to its chance of reformation, or the former will be retained at the expense of the latter. What is the opportunity afforded at Cayenne, to a criminal desirous of becoming honest and respectable? and where would be the wholesome dread of a voyage to the neighbourhood of the diggings? Whatever Mr. Justice Erle's sense of the superior impressiveness attaching to the delivery of a sentence of transportation, over that of a sentence to penal servitude, we may be sure that the subject of it is less sensitive to dramatic effects. The old horror of Botany Bay and Norfolk Island is by no means felt, in relation to a district that is well understood to abound in fat meat and large wages. We can well believe, on the other hand, as is stated by Mr. Waddington,—that criminals are vehemently impatient of actual imprisonment, and become the more so as the period of release approaches. Men suffer alike from fear of the unknown, and from endurance of the definite. But transportation becomes, of necessity, less and less of the unknown, as instances of subsequent

reformation—which mean to the unfortunate simply instances of better fortune—become frequent. We cannot at once terrify the criminal mind with threats of penal hardships on board ship and on public works,—and persuade the general mind that those hardships are but a brief introduction to boundless prosperity. We must take our choice between maintaining a rule of terror, by keeping up half a dozen little hells upon so many of the desolate islands that are numbered among our colonies, and resorting to a mixture of forced and free labour, in the neighbourhood of respectable communities, that would assuredly not be "deterring," however reformatory.

But when we demand why this work of reformation should not be carried on at home, we are met with vague assertions that the ticket-of-leave system has failed. The committee do not say so. The tenth and eleventh of their resolutions, affirm that this system is "wise and just in itself," and has been in operation too short a time to allow of a fair judgment on its working. The committee even go further, and declare:

13. That there has been much of misapprehension and exaggeration with regard to the conduct of persons released upon tickets-of-leave, who have been frequently confounded, even by several of the witnesses in this inquiry under one common designation of ticket-of-leave men, with convicts whose sentences have fully and absolutely expired.

14. That there is reason to believe that the conduct of a large proportion of the whole number of persons discharged upon tickets-of-leave has hitherto been good, and that in other cases persons so discharged have relapsed into crime from the difficulty, arising from their former characters becoming known, of procuring or retaining honest employment in this country—a difficulty, however, which obviously applies to all persons once convicted, whether discharged upon tickets-of-leave or absolutely at the expiration of their sentences.

What is this but an echo of Mr. Recorder Hill's sagacious remark, that the ticket-of-leave man is in no case worse than a discharged convict? He is but an ordinary criminal released before his time, and the easier to catch if he should be again "wanted." But even were it otherwise,—had the ticket-of-leave proved as mischievous as the gentlemen of the *Times* and the Home Office would have us believe,—what would be the inference, and whose the blame? It was never recommended by us, or by any of its responsible advocates, as a measure of prison discipline, but simply accepted as a temporary substitute for transportation; a rude and insecure bridge between one position that could no longer be defended, and another not yet reached. The fault lies with those who defended the former position till they were obliged to abandon it on the sudden, and who either dislike the latter, or think going back easier than going forward. It is to the ignominious and altogether detestable spirit which cares only to multiply emoluments and avoid work, we owe this resolve to re-commence transportation. The cessation of that practice cast upon our Home government the charge of some eight or ten thousand criminals, for whom the Colonial Office had been accustomed to provide. About half the number were furnished with tickets-of-leave, and sent about their business—which might have been expected to bring back a considerable proportion to the door of Downing-street. So little did Downing-street trouble itself about the matter, there was not even provision made for watching and counting the number of returns. Official witnesses do not pretend to give any precise information on the subject. From twelve to twenty is the conjectured per-cent. To us it appears, that if eighty criminals out of every hundred take themselves off for good after three or four years' imprisonment and hard labour, the task of dealing with the remainder is enviable easy. With Dartmoor Commons to cultivate by hand, and Holyhead harbours to construct, it is absurd to talk of the impossibility of domestic prison discipline,—and worse than absurd to propose the exportation to the colonies of forced labour at the cost of a hundred pounds per head. Why, the very fact that the three colonies of Australia have, within the last three years, transmitted to the Emigration Commissioners a million and a half of money,—adduced by the *Times* in evidence of their willingness to receive convicts and free emigrants of one to three to four,—exhibits in the strongest light the folly of the proposed plan. If the colonists are so desirous of human imports as to have no objection to a little taint, why carry on a costly exportation? Let us rather keep to our ticket-of-leave system, and hold out to the well-behaved a prospect of being sent to Australia, with their own consent, by the Emigration Commissioners. Nor let it be said that this would differ only in name from the renewal of transportation. There is all the difference in the world between forced and free emigration. The colonists would receive with open arms, the people they lately drove from their shores, if those same people but went in another ship. The ticket-of-leave men would find their licence so real a liberty to reform, that we need never trouble the colonial police to recapture them. Here, the wonder is that eighty

out of a hundred can get masters and fellow-workmen, avoid old companions, and walk in new paths. There, they would have none but themselves to blame if they returned to evil courses. The probability is very great that two or three years' penal servitude at home, followed by optional emigration, would be found fully as effective as the old fourteen or twenty-one years. And the option would have this further advantage,—the relapsed thief would be unable to excuse himself by the plea of destitution.

SHALL KANSAS BE A FREE OR SLAVE STATE?

The momentous nature of the struggle now proceeding in the American Union has been fully brought out in a speech delivered before a New York audience, by Mr. Reeder, the Governor of Kansas, elected by the free settlers, but expelled by the Federal troops. It is not merely a question of a balance of votes in the House of Representatives, nor even whether some three hundred thousand slaveholders shall continue to rule the whole republic. Great material, as well as political interests are at issue; and it is this combination of causes which gives the conflict so much intensity, and nerves the resolution of the majority of the lower branch of the Legislature. Kansas, though a large territory, is small compared with the unoccupied region stretching beyond the Rocky Mountains, extensive enough "to make six States as large as Pennsylvania." The abrogation of the Missouri compromise not only leaves this region to be occupied by emigrants from either North or South, but enables the settlers, if so disposed, to establish slavery and reinforce Southern interests in Congress. If Kansas and the prairies of the West are to be peopled by negroes and their owners who live in the adjoining States, there will be, as there has been, small chance for free labour; and that preponderance which the Free States have acquired by greater numbers, wealth, and civilisation, may be counterbalanced by a comparatively few slave proprietors who may obtain possession of the vast tracts that extend beyond Missouri. The case is thus forcibly put by Governor Reeder before the citizens of New York.

Is it not obviously palpable, that if we lose the State of Kansas we lose that entire body of States of the Pacific Ocean, and when we have lost them and have thus isolated the territory of New Mexico which lies below, and left it to be carried by the Slave States on the North—will any reflecting man tell me how much of the territory of New Mexico we will get? Will he tell me how this is to be had? Will he tell me that sufficient numbers can be got there through the Slave States, to prevail against the violence and the force of the Slave States that will be brought to subdue it? No; they will all be lost, and this entire territory will be handed over to slavery. (Hear, hear.) This half of a continent is all lost to the North and to freedom. This is a momentous question in many respects. Let me direct your attention to a few of them. These Northern States may be likened to a tub under a fountain, all the time boiling over with a surplus population, and streaming over the vast West and hunting homes in that fair territory—a constant stream of surplus population running westward like a vast river, which, were it concentrated, would build up a new State every five or six years. Will any man deny that slave labour and free white labour cannot exist together? It is a proposition admitted by everybody, that where one is the other cannot be. Well, then, suppose you dedicate one-half of this continent to negro and to slave labour, you shut off this entire stream of northern emigration—you shut the gates of the whole vast West, Kansas, Deseret, and New Mexico to the North, and turn back this human tide to throw itself upon the States of the north and the north-west. If you deny this great territory to the free labouring man, you see that to him the gates shall be closed for ever, and all of it dedicated to the negro, and not to the white man. Have the labouring men of the North considered the import of this question to them—the drayman, the hodman, the mechanic, the day labourer?

While, therefore, the Congress is waging mortal struggle on the question whether the Federal army shall be employed to enforce the laws passed by the spurious Legislature of Kansas, the population north and south are taking their part in the conflict. "Immigrate, immigrate, is the word. Placards, advertisements, subscription lists invite the settler and promise him a lift. Free State settlers for Kansas, Slave State settlers for Kansas, here are your tickets; apply to such an office. Both sides marshal their settlers as electioneers do their voters." Societies are organised, subscriptions raised, state funds are voted, and "Westward, Ho!" becomes once more the watchword of freemen. Governor Reeder asks for men, for money, and for rifles. He calls upon the great city of New York to send at least 3,000 men to that virgin soil to repel the Missouri ruffians, and to contribute at least a million dollars to the cause of free labour. It would return to them, he says, increased tenfold within the next decade, from the commerce resulting from the demand for freemen in that vast territory, and from the establishment of the Pacific railroad.

It is clear that the tide is turning against slavery. Colonel Fremont finds supporters even in the South, the chief city of Missouri itself has recently elected a Free Soil re-

presentative, and the non-slaveholding population of the Slave States, which constitute a great majority, are making their voice heard on behalf of free labour. The atrocities and crimes which have been perpetrated in Kansas and elsewhere have, we are told, "thoroughly abolitionised the Free States." A correspondent of a daily paper, writing from New York, speaks in the following menacing strain: "The time has come when the real secessionists of the United States are the men of the North. We have heard this threat of disunion until we are tired of it. The old cry of 'Wolf! wolf!' has lost all its terrors. Now we are not sure but the wolf has actually come. At all events, I know that I speak the feelings of a large proportion—a very large proportion, of the men and women of the North, when I say that, rather than hug this corpse of slavery to our bosoms any longer for the sake of union, we will cast the foul thing from our embrace, union or no union; for a country is left for us, and God is on the side of justice. If we break up this Government, we can construct another." This time there is good reason to hope that the audacious pretensions of the slaveocracy will be successfully resisted, and that the South will have to choose between an inferior position in the commonwealth and a dissolution of the Union.

Reform, and it is true; but Mr. Roebuck and his "fifteen or twenty" phalanx have pre-occupied the fighting ground there. What will our Asian Mystery do? He has thrown away fine opportunities before now; here is a last chance for him. We never read his philosophic novels without being struck, not only with the brightness and fertility of his intellect, but with the elevation and breadth of his sympathies. Let him be worthy of himself. He persecuted Peel; he has damaged Whiggism; there is plenty of noble work to be done, which a single eye will discern. He is reported to have said, he must have five years of power; the question is, what sort of power? For the last time of asking, the question is put to Benjamin Disraeli, Will he be content with the equivocal honours of a gipsy politician while he lives, and the unwilling outlawry of History when he is dead; or will he find a glorious opportunity in some self-forgetful enterprise of public good?

While Harriet Martineau is writing foreign politics and social criticism in the *Daily News*, she is teased at home by unthinking tourists, who break upon her valetudinarian repose. She is ill from heart-disease, which may at any moment terminate her existence; and she is fully, and calmly, aware of this. Her age is not great; if our memory serves, she was born in the same year as Mr. Jerrold and Mr. Disraeli. Meanwhile, Mr. Gilbert à Beckett,—the first of the *Punch* society to quit for the *Silent Land*, during fifteen or sixteen years,—has died at Boulogne of congestion of the brain, aggravated by grief for the loss of his son. Mr. Gilbert à Beckett will be remembered as a powerful journalist in connexion with the Andover Union; and as we, personally, have carefully watched his magisterial career, we do more than echo the words of the daily press in saying that his decisions have been almost unexceptionable. As a *littérateur*, he was one of our best parodists, and the Comic Blackstone in *Punch* was, we think, a really useful and suggestive *jeux d'esprit*, as it was far superior in humour and purpose, to the less defensible Comic Histories of Rome and of England. Parody, like everything else, has its proper bounds; but within them, it is a legitimate source of pleasure, and we have rolled over some of the choice morsels in *Punch* from Mr. à Beckett's pen. Surely it must be nine years ago, since we saw there a parody on Bürger's Leonora, which we took to be his—

The county member rose from dreams
Of Peel, and "base defection;"
"Art dead, or liv'd in Stanley's schemes,
My own, my lov'd Protection?"

and about the same time, the Song of the Wild Busman, of which we have a less accurate recollection.

Sir R. Westmacott, the sculptor, is also gone. His reputation is scarcely a thing of to-day, and it was never of the *very highest* order. Though he was the artist of some public statues, such as that of Fox in Bedford-square, he is best known to the general reader by his Psyche, which has been made very familiar to us all by prints and casts.

The London and Glasgow Art-Unions have closed their rooms. We do not envy the prizeholders in general; but we should by no means object to the possession of Mr. Sant's *Girl at the Mountain Well*, and Mr. Parry's *Easdale Tam, Westmoreland*, in the latter; or Mr. Henry's *Old Bridge in Piedmont*, and Mr. Hall's *Dear Swift and the Messenger*, in the former.—Readers who have three guineas to invest in ornament will, if they are wise, carry them to Messrs. Graves's in Pall-Mall, and, after gloating again over Millais's glorious *Order of Release*, direct a copy of Mr. Cousins's engraving from it to be sent home to them.—We heard recently that Mr. Millais was in the neighbourhood of Richmond, bent on what Ruskin calls "Truth of Trees," and copying noticeable foliage with incredible elaboration.—We wonder whether any of our readers have noticed a sort of *family likeness* in the comic illustrations of one of our cheap weeklies? They are by a brother of Richard Doyle, and a quick eye could scarcely look at them without being reminded of the Maestro.—Mr. Millais, at Richmond, painfully coping leaves and gnarled barks, reminds us of a little disclosure in Colonel Chesterton's "Revelations of Prison Life." It seems we are indebted for a prison-escape in "Paul Clifford," to details studied on the spot by Bulwer Lytton, and transferred to canvas with no extra touches but such as genius cannot help.

While the Marylebone Free Library is perishing for want of funds, the Birmingham musical public have "combined" and built a beautiful new Music Hall, in Broad-street, capable of containing 2,000 people; and they have opened it with a creditable first performance, under the leadership of Mr. Alfred Mellon (a Birmingham man), with Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, &c., &c., for bright particular stars. Englishmen will combine and do wonders, if you give them something very tangible to combine for; but not otherwise as

Table-Talk.

The honourablest part of talk is to give the occasion; and again to moderate and pass to somewhat else.—Lord Bacon.

Everybody who is anybody is now supposed to be out of town; choosing his own point of view from which to see the passing beauty of the year glide away in the golden mists of a bright, odorous autumn. It is the "dull," but not useless "season;" when topics that have been waiting their opportunities crop out, and vary our seaside reading. Now (to parody one of the happiest of Leigh Hunt's pages), now, Cayenne is discovered, and the Dark Arches of the Adelphi are illuminated. Now, Mr. Ball turns his bull's-eye on social abuses, and bloated hierarchs have their potted bladders at breakfast spoiled by *Times* leaders. Now, six young women are found to have slept in the parks for a fortnight, and Conservatism is found to have slept its last. Now, continental politics are discussed at large, and Crimean heroes are severely handled. In fact, the dull season is the busy and bright season for social and humanitarian topics in general, and even revolutionary suggestions are preferred to enormous gooseberries, to make even columns.

The want of the season is a good novel. We look forward with much interest to Mr. E. M. Whitty's "Friends of Bohemia," but fear it will not be a success, as far as *l'art de conter* is concerned, and that that shrewdest of satiric feuilletonistes will make all his characters talk alike. Will Mr. Whitty ever be more than the prospectus of a philosophic politician?

—Mrs. Stowe's "Dred" is handsomely received on the whole. The *Press*, with that feeble waywardness which sometimes characterises its literary department, suggests, merely on the strength of Mrs. Stowe's inequalities of style, that two pens have been at work in "Dred;" and then, with a patrician amenity beyond all praise, politely asks, "Who is Mr. Stowe?" Is he a man of capability, or is he "only Mrs. Stowe's husband?" The *Athenaeum*, laying its cold-blooded finger upon her artistic blunders (great enough, no doubt), says she has paid the penalty of giving up her talents to her party. Good. We suspect she was prepared to pay it. Minds of Mrs. Stowe's calibre do not usually assume the yoke of a paramount idea without first counting the cost.

Will not Mr. Disraeli come to the rescue? His once-predicted novel of "Bolingbroke" would be the very thing we need, and he might make it the programme of a policy. He is quite a topic of the day. When he was advised to take back his budget as "Mr. Pitt and others" had done, we all remember how, in that explosive speech which brought Mr. Gladstone down upon him, he exclaimed—"I do not aspire to the rank of Mr. Pitt, but I will not submit to the degradation of others." Well; what will he do, if deposed from his leadership? He will never mingle with the crowd, and be lost with "others." Liberalism will not trust him, and we doubt his capacity to initiate a unitary policy; in a word, his statesmanship. He aspires to be a philosophic statesman, but he is only a great political critic. Can it be, however, that he has purposely ridden the country gentlemen into political *Weissnichtwo*, because he has found his former position an impracticable one? His old foe (without whom indeed he would never have been great any more than Wellington without Napoleon) gave the Beast of Party one deadly wound not to be healed; is he himself meditating another? The *Press* says he was the first to speak out upon Administrative

prophets of progress and ideal revolutionists discover to their sorrow.

The daily press has quoted a paragraph from the *Cork Constitutional*, which will have informed our readers that preparations are ripe for laying down the telegraphic cable which is to unite these islands and America, by a line from Cape Clear to Newfoundland. Not Fakreddine himself could foretell the "combinations" that will result from this, or from the probable prosperity of the Algerian Cotton-field, which is a topic in France, and may suggest to America that "unrestricted competition" has not yet seen its latest development!

And America may suggest something useful to our men (and women) of letters. New York has been the seat of a "Grand Dental Convention, organised upon the broad basis of equality and fraternity," and avowedly transfused with "the spirit of brotherly love!" We do not despise partial efforts like the Fielding Club, but literary men in England have yet to cut their wisdom-teeth in the matter of guild feeling.

Mr. Aytoun's "Bothwell" is a failure. No one expected anything else. Mr. Thackeray's new serial story will not "spread its light wings of saffron" till December. Mr. Emerson's "English Traits" is receiving very various, and, on the whole, misappreciative treatment.

Spirit of the Press.

In a glance at the present aspect of Italian affairs, the *Spectator* takes this view of the diplomatic situation: "The non-evacuation of Greece by the French and English troops, while it contradicts any reports of changed policy for the Western Powers in Greece, implies that they are acting together in full Napoleonic-Palmerstonic unity. The endeavours of Naples to wheedle France into a position separate from England are proved to have failed, by the reiterated demand upon King Ferdinand to retract his impudent answer. And the freedom with which the journals of Austrian Italy are allowed to amplify the Neapolitan attack on England for tyrannical oppression of Ireland and India, implies that Austria is as much with Naples as France is with England." Looking at "signs and prognostics," our contemporary concludes that the Governments of Queen Victoria and Napoleon III. have reverted more to the course indicated by Lord Clarendon on the 8th of April, than that favoured by Count Walewski.

The Sultan is to be made a Knight of the Garter, which the *Spectator* regards as "a great historical event," and thus discourses on its significance:—

More serious difficulties will present themselves. The Order of the Garter is an order of *Christian* chivalry. The loss of its earliest records somewhat obscures its origin; we only know that Edward III. founded it, probably with some eye at once to the Knighthood of the Crusades and to the traditional Knights of the Round Table. But what would the immaculate virgin Sir Galahad, who succeeded in the quest of the Real Blood and the conquest of the Siege Perilous, have said to the admission of the Soudan to a "siege" at the redoubt board? He would probably have been as furious as his modern representative in the London press at the admission of Louis Napoleon, the "Papist," to be a Knight of the Garter—as if the Papist were more schismatrical than Nicholas, who crossed his breast from right to left in the Greek fashion! As if, too, Edward, the illustrious founder of the order were not himself "a Papist." Royal Savoy has set the example of conferring the Christian order of "St. Maurice et St. Lazare" on Baron Rothschild, a Jew; and where is the greater enormity of giving the Order patronised by St. George to a Mohammedan?

Still there are apparent difficulties to the admission of the Soudan. The ruling idea among the earliest knights was the defence of loyalty, chivalry, and "the faith," against the infidels all and sundry. The earliest systematic record of the Order and its statutes places it under the protection of the Trinity; all the Knights possessed a gallant devotion to the Virgin Mary, whose image they then wore, after the fashion of King Arthur. On one occasion, not adopted by Gibbon, when Knights were fighting in Palestine, St. George, of Cappadocia, appeared before them in the figure of a beautiful young man, conferring upon them victory. All these facts are recorded in the velvet Black Book or Register of the Order. The insignia and the robes of the Order were particularly designed, saith the same record, to remind the Knights of these things; and a question of delicacy at least suggests itself in asking the Sultan to don them.

Not that the difficulty is insuperable; for Philip, the husband of Queen Mary, obtained leave to omit some parts of the insignia, apparently because it hurt his morbid pride to wear the whole livery of another sovereign. To do so was a common custom with greater men than Philip; but he was a diseased recreant.

The oath might constitute a greater difficulty. But this also has been accommodated to other circumstances. Philip took his oath on a portion of "the true cross;" which is not at present available. Henry the Eighth caused the knight to be admitted under statutes which would disqualify him if he were guilty of "heretical depravity;" but what is "heretical depravity?" Henry would have given different answers at different times. The oath does not appear to have begun with the existence of the Order, being probably merged in the religious service proper to the admission of a knight; and the first special oath only bound the fraternity to defend the College at Windsor, including, no doubt, its chapel. Well, why should not the Sultan

do that? The Sultan's Ambassador has subscribed to the new church at Constantinople, and certainly we could better rely on his Highness Abd-ul-Medjid K.G., for the defence of Windsor, and all that it contains, than on his Majesty Nicholas, who broke the very fundamental rules of the Order, by engaging in war against his Sovereign, and playing traitor alike to truth and chivalry in the mode of levying that war.

Yes: you judge things after all by practical tests. The real "infidel" is the man who breaks faith and violates the spirit of religion. The Sultan, who has promoted freedom of conscience where persecution had heretofore wielded the never-sheathed sabre of proselytism, is likely to be a better brother of the Order than Nicholas, who prostituted sacred names to diplomatic chicane and military spoliation.

The *Examiner* very mercilessly plucks from Lord Cardigan's brow the laurels with which his admirers at Leeds have adorned him, and analyses his speech on that occasion. It is asked how he acted after the celebrated Balaklava charge:—

Did he collect his men, did he restore order, did he re-form, did he return a leader as he went a leader? He says it was not for him in the face of the batteries, to turn his horse and wait for the second line. Be it so. But what did he do with the first line? Did he gather up the fragments, did he rally the men, and give the character of a retreat to what otherwise must have been a disorderly rout? The second line returned, formed and in order, to face the enemy; they did indeed face a whole regiment of Russians, who liked the look of them too little to meddle with them. How had the first line, under the immediate command and eye of Lord Cardigan, returned? Was it as stragglers, or in good order? Was Lord Cardigan collecting and conducting his men, or was he alone in his glory?

For the glorious disaster of the charge, Lord Cardigan is not to blame. He did as he was ordered; but when that was done commenced the occasion for his own resource, and the conduct for which he is responsible. What did he to retrieve what he could not prevent? What did he to save, to repair? what to diminish the loss? All this is what he should have to boast, and he is silent upon it. He takes praise for what he could no more help than the humblest private in the line,—his place in the charge; but he does not think proper to show how well he acquitted himself as commander, when it depended on his presence of mind, courage, and skill, to save the wreck of the brigade, and bring it off in a soldierly retreat, instead of letting it disperse in a wild rout. This was the occasion for conduct and heroism. We search in vain for any light upon this obscure passage in the history of the famous Balaklava charge.

At the banquet Mr. Denison highly lauded the noble lord, "although a British peer," for being ready to obey the commands of his superior officer, upon which the *Examiner* remarks:—

The military duty of obedience is a fine copy-book text to lecture on, and there is no denying the general obligation and its virtues. But when Mr. E. Denison pledges himself to spurn with the greatest contempt even a lord! or any British subject refusing to obey command with whom he may come in contact, we must congratulate him upon not having lived and kicked in the days of the Peninsular war, or of Nelson's exploits. For how Mr. E. Denison, M.P., would have spurned Pictor! With what contempt would he have treated the division general who in the field of battle refused to obey an order of Wellington! Wellington, indeed, being a Wellington, and not an E. Denison, did not spurn his disobedient officer, or treat him with any sort of contempt; and on hearing that Pictor obstinately persisted in refusing to make the ordered movement, the great captain coolly answered, "Does he? Well, I suppose he has his reasons, and knows what he is about."

Pictor was right, as the Duke afterwards, with his characteristic greatness of mind, always admitted.

A Pictor in Lord Cardigan's place would not have obeyed the order to charge at Balaklava. He would have resolved to risk his fortunes and his fame rather than throw away the lives of several hundred men in an useless and unsoldierly operation. As it turned out, Lord Raglan would have approved his conduct in this case, though Mr. E. Denison would certainly have spurned him upon the first convenient occasion. Pictor had a great escape in finding an honoured grave before the advent of Mr. E. Denison. Lord Cardigan has given a brilliant example of obedience to orders, cost what it might; but it is always to be remembered that there are also exceptional examples of disobedience, worthy of admiration for the correctness of the view of circumstances, and the hazard of all selfish interests for the great object at stake.

The *Press* very eagerly catches at the inference from Mr. Roebuck's Sheffield speech, that without party organisation no weight is to be obtained, and no good is to be done. "He assures us, from his personal knowledge, that a very small knot of organised men can enormously influence the Legislature, and, as he is dissatisfied with the two great parties in the State, he proposes to create a third, which, even if it numbers but ten or fifteen members in the House of Commons, may, he thinks, be able to dictate terms to the Government." Our contemporary differs entirely from the honourable member for Sheffield in his explanation of the stillness of the political atmosphere on the continent. "We believe it to be due to the desire of the nations of Europe to prosecute the labours of industry in security and peace; to the development of social arts; to a perception on the part of both Governments and people that their interests are substantially the same; and to the defeat and disgrace of the party of disturbance in every country where it has ventured to raise its head." The following is an ingenious argument:—

The communities of modern Europe are far too intelligent and keen-sighted to submit to any Government essentially opposed to their interests and wishes. They may not exercise a direct influence over the acts of their

executives, but from the relations existing in every civilised society, it is impossible that any Government can be independent of the support of the great body of the people. It was the sage remark of Montesquieu that the most absolute Courts of the world are compelled to shape their course by the general current of popular feeling.

The *Press* sees no hope to freedom from a revolutionary movement on the continent:—

A Government might be overthrown, but the system would remain unchanged, or would give place to harsher rule. Those absolute monarchies on the Continent, which a certain order of shallow politicians among us are inclined to regard as mere accidents which may be overthrown by a breath, are the result of causes deeply laid in the very constitution of the States, and interwoven with the whole fabric of society.

The appointment of a Minister to the Court of Naples "of the most decidedly Liberal tendencies" is strongly deprecated:—

Committed to the espousal of one side in the politics of the Neapolitan kingdom, he would be unable to give those moderate counsels which might allay the violence of contending parties, and bring about a happier state of feeling; or if able to give such counsels, they would be received by one side with suspicion, and the other with discontent. He would be placed in a false position from being sent out, not as an able and upright diplomatist, but for purposes of political propagandism.

Once more the *Press* appeals to the Church of England to rally round its best friends, the Tories, who have its welfare at heart and cling to this, one of the most ancient of their traditions. Writing for the especial benefit of Convocationists, it says:—

If the clergy wish to retain the Church as one of the institutions of the country, they must support the Conservatives cordially and honestly. No wise Churchman would wish to see a fresh succession of non-jurors. They would not now enjoy even the brief period of existence they attained to in the last century. But if any party in the Church were to push matters to extremes, such would probably be the result. For the sober theology and reverent practices which have hitherto characterised the English Church, the greatest security is to be found under the Conservative banners.

Subsequently, our contemporary gives utterance to the following High Church dogma:—

It is folly to speak of bishops in the same category with lay functionaries of the Crown. We do not talk of Law and State, or of Medicine and State, or of Army and State, but of Church and State. These two together constitute England, and other men are members of them. So far, then, as theory is concerned, the identity sought to be established is purely fanciful. The evil consequences which might practically result from reducing the Church to the position of a mere profession we have before pointed out.

The *Economist* elaborately endeavours to reply to an oft-repeated inquiry, "What has become of all the gold?" and concludes that of the entire quantity of gold amounting to 105,000,000L, furnished by California and Australia, 52,000,000L has been required for the demands of the rapidly-increasing commerce of the times, and that 53,000,000L has merely replaced a similar amount of silver formerly in use in America and France.

It may be asked, what has become of this large amount of silver in addition to the ordinary supplies from the mines? Within the period referred to, a demand of an unprecedented kind has arisen in India and China. From Southampton alone during the years in question, up to this date, silver to the value of 21,000,000L has been exported to the East; and, further, a very large quantity has been exported from the Mediterranean ports to the same markets, where it appears to be absorbed without in any way satisfying or even affecting the further demand. Holland and Belgium have both adopted a single silver standard, having demonetised gold, and a certain demand for silver has existed in those countries; and a very considerable importation has taken place into Austria from time to time.

The same paper, in discussing American difficulties, does not lose sight of the fact that in some respects English interests are more bound up with the Southern States than the Northern—the former being Free-traders and the latter favourable to a protective tariff. We buy the produce of the South, and sell them our manufactures. In consequence of this community of interest, our Radical contemporary, the *Manchester Examiner*, notwithstanding his anti-slavery creed, has gone so far as to wish Mr. Buchanan success in the coming election. But the *Economist* cannot go that length. "It seems impossible," he remarks, "not to wish success to Colonel Fremont," as "the embodiment of the principles of Free-soil extension, peace, and at least a decorous foreign policy." But the most remarkable article in our contemporary boldly and ably calls in question the advantages of reformatory institutions. Believing that the new scheme, like the old schemes, of criminal reformers, is founded on delusive hopes, and will do more evil than good, it is contended that these reformatory contrivances as a rule impede productive labour; and though individual cases of benefit may result, we must decide such questions, not by individual cases, nor by the fancies of benevolent men—not by the delight which they may rationally feel at some poor children snatched from evil, but by general principles, and general principles assure us that the newly-proposed reformatories, like the old gaols, will help to perpetuate poverty, vice, and crime." The following detached extracts will indicate the general drift of this remarkable article:—

We say nothing about these reformatory providing better for criminal children and for the offspring of criminal parents, than innocent children and the offspring of innocent but poor parents can be provided for, though this is one of the strong objections to the scheme, because this has been acknowledged by Lord Stanley and the other members, who profess to take means to obviate it. We do not believe in the possibility of their success in this respect. We know certainly that all previous exertions in the same direction, including the gift of education to pauper children, young criminals, &c., &c., have ended in throwing advantages into the scale of criminality, and making the scale of poor virtue kick the beam. This is an insuperable objection to such schemes, but we do not insist on it, because the reformists assume that they can overcome it.

A more important objection, we think, is that all these schemes have for their object to give effect to our present system of penal jurisprudence, which is a species of class legislation now obviously unsuitable to our condition, and incompatible with the general knowledge. . . .

There are only two possible methods of lessening crimes against property, and all other crimes are so few or so trifling, and so fast diminishing, that they give us little trouble. The one is to lessen the intense desire for wealth in all; the other, supposing the desire not to be susceptible of diminution, to put an end to the temptation to gratify it wrongfully. . . . The necessity for other men to labour excessively to gratify their desire, enhances all the difficulties which unpropertied men experience in getting an honest livelihood. It throws apparently advantages on the side of trickery, deceit, and thieving, making men believe that it is more easy to get a living by scoundrelism than by honest labour. The reformatories will strengthen this desire by making wealthy men believe that they can put wealth to a kindly use; they will desire it more than ever for purposes of benevolence; and will by their conduct in seeking it, and in still earnestly protecting it by law, increase the desire for it in others. So they will encourage crimes against property, unless they can find means, which is impossible, to gratify in all the unduly intensified desire.

We do full justice to the motives of my Lord Stanley and the other gentlemen who have entered into this new scheme of patchwork improvement. They wish well, and they mean well. But they are unconsciously and falsely biased in favour of the class legislation which has been made for their purposes, and which may apparently bestow on them great advantages as a class, while, as members of one common whole—equally afflicted by its woes and delighted by its joys—it is as injurious to them as to the multitude which the class legislation oppresses. It does not even serve the professed purpose. The reformatories are to keep it in credit a little longer if possible. Proposed under this unconscious bias, and under ignorance of the natural laws on which the welfare of society depends, the present exertions of these well-meaning philanthropists will be as injurious to posterity as they admit the exertions and institutions of their predecessors are to the present generation.

The *Liverpool Albion* gives the following summary of the provisions of the new Central American Treaties:—

As regards Honduras, they consist of two conventions and one treaty. The first embraces the relinquishment of Bay Islands. Our Government has agreed to give up Roatan, Bonaca, Utila, Burbur, Helens, Morat, and all other islands and bays whatever, in the Bay of Honduras, and pertaining to the latter republic in virtue of their being originally, as they undoubtedly were, dependencies within the jurisdiction of Truxillo, the seat of Spanish power on the Honduras coast. England stipulates, and Honduras agrees, that all the privileges already secured to the inhabitants of these islands by Royal charter shall be preserved intact, namely, trial by jury, freedom of religious worship, exemption from taxation and military service, except for their own benefit and defence, freedom of commerce, right to appoint their own municipal, executive, and judicial officers. Honduras engages not to erect, nor to permit the erection of fortifications on the islands; nor to cede or transfer her sovereignty over them, or any of them, to any other Power. The convention guarantees the exemption of Bay Islands from the introduction of slavery in any shape, or under any possible pretense.

The second convention provides for the appointment of a commission of arbitrators to adjust all claims as between British subjects and Honduras. It also recognises the territorial limits claimed by Honduras as against Mosquito. If the commission find any of these Indians within the Honduras territory thus defined, they are to designate proper limits for them, within which they shall have simple possessory rights.

So much for the two conventions with Honduras. In respect to the treaty, it is one of amity and commerce, &c., and is entirely reciprocal. It guarantees the independence of the Honduras Inter-oceanic railroad. It is expressly stipulated that there are to be no discriminating charges whatever, as against the commerce of any particular country, or in favour of that of any other.

In reference to Greytown or St. Juan, an arrangement has been come to between Mr. Dallas and Lord Clarendon to recommend to Nicaragua the adoption of a principle similar to that which pervades the Honduras relations as to the Bay Islands, namely, that the sovereignty of the town shall be vested in Nicaragua, to which that State is thus admitted to be entitled, but that the port itself shall be a free port, its municipalities free, and its local government in every way vested in the hands of the inhabitants.

FAILURE OF THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.

The announcement in the postscript of our last Number, will have prepared our readers for the total stoppage of the Royal British Bank. The business of the establishment was carried on as usual until towards eleven o'clock, when the doors were closed, and the following notification, given in our last Number, was affixed on the outside of the building: "The business of this bank is suspended, pending negotiations." On Tuesday it transpired that all negotiations with the hope of inducing any other establishment to interpose, had come to an end. A large number of depositors and shareholders who had met at the bank with-

out concert then endeavoured, with the aid of the directors, to ascertain their real position, and it was agreed among some of the principal depositors that they would themselves consent to wait six months, and would recommend their fellow claimants to do the same, if any security could be given that the shareholders would supply sufficient funds to reopen the establishment and to insure payment at the end of that period. Such shareholders as were present were, of course, unable to decide upon the practicability of this plan in the absence of a full balance-sheet to the latest date, but a general willingness was manifested to make every effort to preserve the interests of all parties.

The failure of this bank is ascribed to an improper or imprudent method of managing its affairs—allowing the late manager and directors to have large advances; to an entanglement with a mineral speculation in Wales; and to losses incurred through advances upon a low class of securities. The share capital of the bank is 300,000*l.*, with 150,000*l.* paid-up. Besides the head office in Threadneedle-street, there were six branches in various parts of London. The last half-yearly report gave the amount of the liabilities of the bank to depositors as 842,428*l.*; and its assets consisted of discounted bills, &c., 810,304*l.*, "investments in Government stocks and cash," 174,364*l.*, and property in buildings, &c., 28,680*l.*

The prospects of the liquidation are gloomy as regards the shareholders; while depositors, if eventually paid, will experience more or less inconvenience from delay in obtaining their money. The exact position of the bank is not yet known, but Mr. Coleman, the accountant, is now busy investigating its affairs. Meanwhile, it is supposed that the shareholders will lose all their paid-up capital—perhaps be called on to make further payments to satisfy the creditors. It is said that 100,000*l.* is sunk in the Cefn Iron-works; that advances to the late manager and directors have left a deficiency of 50,000*l.*; and that bills of Mr. Edward Oliver, of Liverpool, and Westminster Improvement Bonds, are among the "securities" of the so-called assets. The "cash credits"—sums owing by customers who have, on the "Scotch system," been allowed to draw on the bank for certain amounts beyond what they have paid in—are put at 150,000*l.*; and as these represent a large number of small accounts, a good deal of trouble and delay may be expected in realising them. The "run" is supposed to have reduced the liabilities to some 600,000*l.* The asset of "property in buildings" will probably turn out a poor one. It is said that the present directors are free from any charge of obtaining advances for their own purposes. According to the charter of the bank, upon one-fourth of the capital being lost, the directors were bound to call a meeting, the bank being then liable to dissolution unless shareholders to the amount of two-thirds should agree to carry it on and to pay off all dissentients.

From a very early hour on Thursday morning, hundreds of persons surrounded the chief office in Threadneedle-street, vainly endeavouring to get an interview with some person connected with the bank. Finding they could not succeed, they took up their positions opposite the doors, and detailed to each other their several losses, and the consequences which were likely to arise therefrom. Many of the details were of a distressing character. A peculiarly hard case was that of a licensed victualler who was about to take a large tavern at the west-end of London. He had paid a deposit of 500*l.*, and was to complete the purchase to-day, for which purpose he had come to town to draw out the required sum (2,000*l.*), when he found the bank closed. He has, therefore, not only lost his 2,000*l.*, but the 500*l.* deposit-money for not completing the purchase. Another publican has lost between 500*l.* and 600*l.*

[A very hard case is detailed in our Law and Police intelligence.]

About twenty of the principal shareholders of the Royal British Bank assembled on Friday by appointment to endeavour to arrange some definite plan of action, and to ascertain the proposals that might be likely to be entertained by the depositors. Some of the latter were present, and the general feeling seemed to be that it would be best for the shareholders voluntarily to pay up within the next twelve months the 50*l.* yet remaining uncalled on each 100*l.* share, and to undertake also to proceed with the realisation of the assets so as to pay the depositors in full by instalments within that period. A committee of three, consisting of two shareholders and one depositor, was nominated to examine the accounts and to report as soon as Mr. Coleman shall have completed his investigations. It is understood that the number of depositors in the bank exceeds 5,000.

A numerous meeting of depositors took place on Friday evening at St. Martin's Hall, Mr. J. Wyld presiding, to concert measures for obtaining an investigation of the accounts and a settlement of their claims. It was explained that, with a view of effecting these objects, it would be necessary to organise a committee, and, after a lengthened discussion, one was appointed, the members of which were selected from the localities in which the chief establishment and branches are situated. The directors and several shareholders have, it was stated, expressed their desire to make arrangements by which the depositors and customers of the bank shall receive 20*s.* in the pound; and, to shew that they are prepared to act promptly, they propose to pay 5*s.* in one month, 5*s.* in three months, 5*s.* in six months, and the balance within nine months. The almost unanimous opinion appeared to be that the proposal mentioned shall, if possible, be speedily carried out. It was asserted that some of the principal shareholders, to meet the emergency, are prepared to pay calls; and that it is thought 100,000*l.* can be provided in this manner, in the course of three weeks if it shall be required. Alderman Kennedy proposes, for example, to put

down, at once, 5,000*l.* Application has been made to the Court of Bankruptcy to adjudicate in the matter, the petitioning creditor claiming 2054 17*s.* 4*d.* On Monday, Commissioner Fane dismissed, or declined to proceed with, the adjudication of the petition in bankruptcy, because it ought to have been commenced under another act of Parliament. The parties might, he said, commence again if they thought proper. It is understood that another petition will be forthwith presented. A large body of the petitioners are entirely averse to proceedings of bankruptcy.

The directors of the bank were:—Mr. Edward Esdaile, governor; Mr. John Stapleton, deputy-governor; and Messrs. Isaiah Batt, George Gillett, Richard Hurst, Alderman R. H. Kennedy, H. Dunning Macleod, and F. Valiant. At the last half-yearly meeting it was intimated that there had been more than ordinary losses, and the dividend for the half-year was reduced from the usual three per cent. to two per cent.; it also came out that advances had been made, on ample securities, it was said, to the late manager. The directors in their report said, they had "determined, with due regard to the permanent interests of the shareholders, to declare a dividend of four per cent., which will enable them to make more than ordinary provision for bad and doubtful debts." An "important accession of custom" was described as resulting from the removal of the chief office to Threadneedle-street, and a "corresponding increase at the principal branches" was announced. The reserved fund was at the same time stated at 15,262*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* Of course the truth of these statements will become a subject of inquiry.

It has been proposed that engagements from the bank in the shape of promissory notes, payable to the creditors, should be required. These can be legally given, for the bank has not ceased its liquidating functions. But this alone would not meet the case of the minor class of depositors. For their immediate relief, it is suggested to form, under the "Joint Stock Companies Act, 1856," a "Mercantile and Tradesmen's Guarantee and Discount Company," with limited liability; having for its object expressly,—1st, To guarantee and indorse, in consideration of a commission, the liquidation notes of the Royal British Bank; and, 2ndly, To carry on generally, in future, the business of guaranteeing the notes or engagements of other parties, or of discounting them if deemed prudent, taking collateral securities and sound protection to cover its guarantees or discounts. If such a guarantee and discount company be formed by a numerous body of shareholders, having a subscribed capital of 500,000*l.* or 1,000,000*l.*, with a moderate deposit or first instalment paid up,—say ten per cent.—it is considered that, when the society had endorsed the notes of the Royal British Bank, which it would be expressly formed to do, any banker in London would gladly discount them even of the longest date, for they would all be rendered perfectly marketable.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert have principally occupied themselves, since their arrival at Balmoral, in inspecting the progress, both in the grounds and the castle, of the works that were left unfinished on their departure last year. The sport has not as yet been first-rate, as the grouse are very scarce. On the first day of deer-stalking the Prince killed one stag, but on the second, though the deer were seen, it was impossible for the party to get within shot. Amongst the visitors at Balmoral have been the Duke of Cambridge, the Earl of Clarendon, and Baron Marochetti.

The Prince of Wales, attended by Mr. Gibbs, his tutor, landed at Southampton Docks, on Saturday morning, from the royal yacht *Fairy*, en route to Windsor, for the purpose of visiting her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester. The Prince left Southampton in a royal carriage by the nine A.M. train, returned to Osborne via Southampton the same afternoon. The Prince appeared to be in excellent health.

St. Leonards-on-Sea is just now very full of company. The Russian Minister and his wife, the Premier and Lady Palmerston, the Earl and Countess of Lichfield, and Baron Rothschild, are amongst the sojourners.

Miss Florence Nightingale is at present sojourning at Malvern, for the purpose of recovering her health.

Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., M.P., as Chief Commissioner of Works, has given notice that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to erect a monument in St. Paul's Cathedral to the memory of the late Duke of Wellington, and has invited designs from artists of all countries.

The Dublin Crimean Banquet promises to be very successful. Subscriptions are rapidly coming in, and it is anticipated that the 2,000 Crimean men in and about Dublin will be entertained in a manner worthy of the liberality of Ireland.

Her Majesty has resolved to issue a medal to the Arctic navigators in commemoration of their long and perilous service. The medal contains a bust of the Queen, and on the reverse a ship: the form is octagonal, so as to distinguish it at sight from the war medals.

The council of the Liverpool Financial Reform Association has recently been favoured with the views of Lord Stanley on the subjects of taxation and financial reform. In a recent letter to the secretary his lordship says:—

I agree in the preferability of direct over indirect taxation, if two conditions be conceded; the first, that of equality between classes, which by the capitalisation theory seems attainable; the second, that of accurate knowledge by Government of the amount of private incomes, which I know no means of obtaining. It is this latter difficulty more than the former which prevents

many public men from acceding to the principle of a large extension of direct taxation. With regard to economy in the administration of the national funds, most reasoning persons are agreed up to a certain point. In reference to military and naval expenditure, the association have it in their power to do good service, by showing that a large force is not necessarily an efficient one, nor an efficient force necessarily a large one; that the chief colonies are capable of contributing more largely than they do to their own defence in time of peace; that a militia may at all times furnish at a small cost a large reserve for the army; and that a smaller number of officers may do the duty now performed by a larger number, if they be made to study their profession, and if mere idlers be excluded. In the civil service I believe the reform most wanted is to open it to competition, which will enable Government to dispense with a considerable proportion of those employed, and to pay the rest suitably.—*Manchester Examiner.*

Miscellaneous News.

The convict establishment at Woolwich is to be entirely broken up, and the prisoners will be transferred to the new convict prison at Chatham.

The Public Libraries Act for St. George's, Hanover-square, was put to the vote at a meeting of ratepayers on Thursday, and the adoption rejected, with scarcely one dissentient.

The new Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Mr. J. J. Mechi, and Mr. F. Keats, will enter upon their duties on Monday, the 29th inst., on which day also the election of Lord Mayor will take place.

The Museum of Ornamental Art is now in course of removal to the new building at Gore House, Kensington, and will not be again open to the public at Marlborough House, Pall-mall.

The Lord Mayor, on Monday, remitted a further sum of 65,000*l.* to Paris for the sufferers by the inundations, thus raising the total amount to 830,000*l.*, or 33,000*l.*

Sir Edward McDonnell, Chairman of the Great Southern and Western Railway, has stated that it is probable the frauds of the transfer-clerk Knighting will amount to 25,000*l.*

As the stone of the new Parliament Palace is already showing signs of decay, men have been set to work to cover it with a newly-invented solution, which will, it is believed, preserve it from destructive atmospheric influences.

The new Free-trade Hall at Manchester, erected on the site of the old building, is now nearly finished, and will probably be opened on the 8th October by a dinner to be given by the proprietors to their friends. The hall has been engaged for Monday evenings during the winter for a series of people's concerts.

On Monday there was a general reduction of one halfpenny throughout the metropolis in the price of a four-pound loaf of wheaten bread, the charge now being best bread, 9*d.*; second quality, 8*d.*; and household bread, 7*d.* the 4lb. Some bakers are selling from 6*d.* to 7*d.* the loaf unweighed.

At the last meeting of the Wortley board of guardians application for relief was made by a woman who stated that her first husband had enlisted for a soldier and deserted her—that her second husband was dead, her third lost, and her fourth in prison. The applicant was only thirty-seven years of age, and has three children.

On Friday night, Emily Smith, who had been apprehended in Liverpool, charged with stealing a gold watch, valued at 8*l.*, from a man named Keddiss, temporarily evaded the designs of the police by swallowing six sovereigns, which she had obtained in exchange for the watch, from some convenient receiver.

Highly successful experiments have been made at Woolwich with an invention of Mr. Francis, an American, called a "floating metallic pontoon wagon." This wagon can be used as a boat in crossing water, to carry soldiers or baggage; four of them fastened together are sufficient to bear a piece of heavy ordnance; and by means of a larger number a floating bridge can be formed.

The 133rd festival of the three choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester, opened on Monday, at Gloucester, under the most favourable auspices. The weather was magnificent, the town was filling rapidly, upwards of 3,000 tickets were already taken, and lodgings had been let weeks and months ago. Altogether there is a promise of a most successful meeting.

Mr. J. R. Hinds, the astronomer, writes to the *Times* respecting some recent discoveries which seem to identify the comet of 1264 with that of 1556. He anticipates its probable speedy return, and suggests to those who are provided with suitable telescopes, and are desirous of assisting in the search for this long-expected comet, that no time should be lost in commencing operations. Greater vigilance will be necessary in the winter months than during the summer.

On Saturday night last, shortly before the performances began in the Leicester theatre, a man leaning over the rails of the gallery lost his balance, and was precipitated into the pit, a distance of some forty feet, breaking a chandelier in his descent. The greatest consternation prevailed in the house, which was full at the time. The alarm, however, soon dissipated, when the individual who had excited it appeared on his feet, apparently little the worse for his fall.

The Palmer trial appears to be still exciting a morbid interest. The *Record* asks: "Will it be believed that a play-bill lies before us, printed at Oldbury, and therefore we presume to be enacted in that town, in 'Latimer's Mammoth Theatre'—affording, so it runs, 'the greatest combination of novelty and attraction ever offered to the public?'" And what is it? Nothing less than the real tragedy of the Rugeley murder, 'done into an entire new drama,' and entitled 'The Rugeley Poisoner; or, the Life and

Death of William Palmer.' Then comes the dramatic personae—the victim, the murderer, the judge, the jury, the execution! Act I, laid at Shrewsbury; II, at Rugeley; III., at London!" Then follow singing and dancing, concluding with a "laughable farce."

A young man, residing in the parish of Kilmuir, Skye, was lately fishing in the sea, when he happened to take a "carvanach"—a kind of perch. In holding the fish between his knees, in order to extract the hook, a part of the dorsal fin, which is very thorny, entered his leg, and the point of one of the fins is supposed to have broken off, and remained there. The accident at first was thought trifling, but the leg soon began to swell, and finally burst. After a fortnight of intense agony, the poor fellow breathed his last.

A new Music Hall was opened at Birmingham last week. The event was inaugurated by the performance of the *Messiah* on Tuesday, followed by concerts on Wednesday, and the *Elijah* on Thursday. The hall itself is described as a plain building without ornament, 111 feet long by 76 feet wide and 70 feet in height; and calculated to hold 1,830 persons—the greater part in the galleries, the lesser on the floor. It stands in Broad-street, the entrance being by two corridors. The musical performances have been directed by Mr. Alfred Mellon, whom Birmingham claims for its own.

A meeting of the International Association for Decimal Coinage was held on Thursday afternoon, in the hall of the Society of Arts, Adelphi, to appoint delegates to attend the Free-trade Congress to be held at Brussels on the 22nd inst., for the purpose of urging the desirability of the adoption of a uniform decimal system of coin, weights, and measures throughout the world, with a view of facilitating commercial transactions. It was resolved that Professor Leone Levi, Mr. Bennett, watch manufacturer, Cheapside, Mr. Lawford, and Mr. Yates, be requested to attend as delegates at the Congress.

Mr. James Nasmyth, of Manchester, puts on record in the *Times* the fact, that an invention of his own led to Mr. Bessemer's plan for superseding the puddling of iron: a fact which has been freely acknowledged by Mr. Bessemer. Mr. Nasmyth's plan was to send a blast of dry steam through molten iron, which effected the same purposes as those of Mr. Bessemer's operations with compressed air: the steam agitated the iron, and was itself decomposed; the oxygen combined with the carbon in the crude iron, and carbonic acid resulted; while the hydrogen removed any sulphur or other such impurities.

The London Chartists are making preparations for a grand metropolitan demonstration to John Frost, who is to make his public entry into London on Monday, the 15th instant, on his return from the sentence of transportation passed upon him for his share in the Chartist riots at Newport. The democrats are convoked in Finsbury-square, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and Russell-square, from which places respectively they are to march on to Euston-square Railway Terminus, to receive Mr. Frost. A carriage will be waiting to receive that great champion, and the procession will then proceed, by a route to be further indicated, to Primrose-hill, on which, at two o'clock, a mass meeting will be held.

The *Cork Constitution* states that the Arctic, United States surveying ship, which had taken soundings from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Valentia, on the Irish coast, with a view to submarine telegraphic communication between the two hemispheres, is about to leave Cork immediately, to continue her soundings back to St. John's. It is expected that, by July next, the whole cable will be laid down. Mr. Bright, the secretary of the Magnetic Telegraph Company, and Mr. Gutierrez, their manager in Cork, have just returned from an inspection of Valentia and its neighbourhood, with the view of ascertaining the best site for the terminus of the submarine cable. At present it is believed that the course the telegraph will take inland will be from Valentia by subterranean wire to Tralee, and thence along the proposed line of railway, on poles, to Killarney, thence to the junction, and so along the rest of the line to London.

An iron lighthouse, intended to be erected on an islet of the Bahamas group, now towers from the iron-works of Messrs. Grissell on the Regent's Canal, at Hoxton. It is 124 feet high, and is surmounted by a revolving lantern 15 feet high; its diameter is 25 feet at the base, and 14 feet at the top; it weighs 800 tons; and its cost, before leaving England, will be from 7,000*l.* to 8,000*l.* It will eventually be fixed on the great Isaac's Rock, on the Bahama Bank—a dangerous shoal, situate in the Straits of Florida, between the Bahamas and Havannah. It is described as a desolate spot, wholly uninhabited, about two miles long and half a mile in breadth, with scarcely any vegetation, destitute of fresh water; at certain seasons wholly covered by the sea, and for about three months of the year altogether unapproachable by ships, by which means alone provisions can be conveyed to the seven or eight men who will be employed to keep the light burning in this lonely tower.

On Friday night, Mr. Lewis Morgan, a gentleman of property in the neighbourhood of Merthyr Tydfil, was killed by a train, while endeavouring to cross the Taff Vale railway on horseback. The night was exceedingly dark, and the animal the deceased rode was a very restive colt. Neither the engineer nor stoker saw anything till after the animal had been struck, nor even then could they tell what had happened. All along the line and amongst the wheels were fragments of the body of the deceased—a leg was in one place, an arm in another, a hand in another, the head and part of the trunk in another, and the heart in another, while bits of flesh and bones were scattered about in all directions, and some thrown a considerable distance. The horse was also dreadfully mutilated. In a pocket-book were notes amounting to 270*l.*, and attached to one of the wheels of the tender a pocket

torn from the trousers of the deceased, containing 11*s.* 6*d.* in silver. It is believed that the deceased was not sober.

On Friday evening last, the inhabitants of the village of Tenby, South Wales, were startled by an occurrence which forcibly recalls to mind the memorable scene in the "Antiquary" of Sir Walter Scott, descriptive of the narrow escape of Sir A. Wardour and his daughter from being drowned on the seashore by a spring-tide of unusual height. It appears that two ladies, visitors at Tenby, had imprudently ventured to prolong their walk on the sands between Tenby and Waterwinch, until the tide had so far advanced as to compel them to climb the cliff, in order to avoid submersion. They succeeded in effecting a secure lodgment on a portion of the rock above high-water mark, but it was utterly impossible, especially for ladies, to gain the summit of the almost perpendicular eminence, and the adventurers accordingly resolved to pass the night in their exposed and most disagreeable position. Fortunately, they were observed by some sailors from the heights above, and, after some manoeuvring, raised to the summit of the cliff by ropes.

The half-yearly meeting of the Railway Passengers' Assurance Company, was held on Monday, at the offices, Old Broad-street; Mr. J. Clay in the chair. The report stated that the income for the past half-year, ending the 30th of June last, was 3,541*l.* from railway accident policies and tickets, and 2,432*l.* for general accident policies, together 5,973*l.*, against 4,570*l.* in the corresponding period of last year, being an increase of 30 per cent. The amount actually received for premiums during this period was 5,082*l.*, making, with the balance from last half-year and the interest on investments, 7,588*l.* to credit of the revenue account. Thirteen claims have been made to the 30th of June under general accident policies, and 14*l.* has been paid in various sums for medical attendance and weekly allowances. Since the commencement of the current half-year two claims of 1,000*l.* each have been made against the company, in consequence of the holders of general accident policies, Messrs. T. and J. Shilling, father and son, having been drowned in the River Medway on the 11th July last. The amount of both policies is payable to the widow and four children of the son. The 2,000*l.* was secured as a provision for the family by the payment of 8*s.* 6*d.* only three months previously. The report was adopted, and interest at the rate of 4 per cent. was declared, payable on the paid-up capital of the company. A vote of thanks to the chairman and directors concluded the proceedings.

As the Ocean Home, bound from Rotterdam to New York, and having on board 106 persons, crew and passengers, was proceeding on Friday morning out of the Channel, the Cherubim, a ship of 2,000 tons, from New York to London, ran into the Ocean Home. She sank in twenty minutes; and all her living freight, except the master, mate, ten of the crew, and ten passengers, were lost. This occurred at two in the morning, and the passengers were nearly all in bed. The captain of the Ocean Home, endeavouring to rouse the passengers, went down with the ship; but, rising to the surface, he seized a piece of wood and was thus saved. One boat was got out, and six men (the second mate believes) manned her, and left the ship. Whether they have escaped is not yet ascertained. The second mate and a passenger got out a small boat with much difficulty. While they were entangled amongst the floating rigging one of the crew jumped from the rail, and another from the main rigging, and swam to the boat. The passenger's name is unknown. Rodney F. Snow and James Monahan are the names of the men saved with the mate. The boat was with difficulty kept afloat, for they had but one oar, and gradually drifted from the wreck. In a quarter of an hour the Ocean Home foundered, with her living freight of seventy-six passengers and fourteen seamen—ninety persons in all, unless the six referred to have happily escaped. The little boat and its four occupants were tossed about until eleven o'clock, when she was observed by the schooner Martha Jones, of and from Shoreham for Chester, which ran in off Mullion and made signals of distress. Two Mullion boats went off and brought the men in. They were received by Mr. William Nicholas, Lloyd's agent at that place, and taken care of.

The Manchester Art Treasures Exhibition, to be opened in May next, promises to be well supported. The executive committee continue to receive from noblemen and gentlemen possessing valuable collections of pictures in various parts of the United Kingdom, the most gratifying offers to place the gems of their collection at the disposal of the committee. Among others, the Duke of Manchester, Lord Fetherstonha, the Duke of Newcastle, the Earl of Carlisle, and the Earl of Ellesmere, have placed their collections at the service of the committee. The Duke of Richmond has also expressed his readiness to promote the exhibition, and Lord Henry Gordon Lennox is taking a warm interest in its success. Lord Talbot de Malahide places all his pictures at the disposal of the executive committee. The collection of art-treasures will not, however, be a mere picture exhibition. It will include almost every variety of articles of antiquarian and archaeological interest, statuary and sculpture, bronzes, china, and porcelain (a magnificent collection of Sevres being lent by the Emperor of the French), and all articles of *virtu*, such as formed the attractions of the collection at Stowe, and as were dispersed at the recent sales of Mr. Bernal and Mr. Rogers. Among recent promises in these classes of art-treasures is one of the only two pieces of sculpture executed by Raphael; the design—a dolphin carrying above a wounded child—is founded on the story of the dolphin and the child Jesus, who one day sporting with the dolphin wounded

himself mortally with one of the dorsal spines of the fish. The faithful dolphin carried the body on shore, and expired at its side. It was purchased in Italy, about a century since, for a very large sum, by the Earl of Bristol, Bishop of Derry, and is now the property of Sir H. Hervey Bruce, of Coleraine. It has never been seen in England, and must attract general attention.

A correspondent of the *Times* relates a striking instance of womanly presence of mind and unmanly meanness, which occurred at Southend on Saturday afternoon last: A gentleman had engaged a bathing machine and had swam out about 100 feet from the machine, when a cry was heard of "Save me; save me;" He was attacked with cramp; his arms were upright and fingers extended. A young man swam out to him, and could have brought him ashore had not the drowning man clasped him round and prevented further action; they both sank twice together. At this moment, a delicate-looking young woman, about twenty years of age (Miss Emma Ingram, residing at the Royal Southend Baths, near the pier), rushed into the sea and swam out to them with all her clothes on, and succeeded in holding both up until a boat arrived and rescued them. The drowning man was taken ashore insensible, and the usual remedies were applied with success; but what was the reward offered to this young woman, who had risked her own life for a stranger? and what was the value of this gentleman's life? Just one shilling! for that was the amount he tendered to Miss Ingram, and has since added ingratitude to his meanness, by stating that he was not in such danger as was supposed. Some gentlemen, who witnessed the transaction, gave the young woman two or three half-crowns, and the ladies who were present stated to her that "it was the act of a Grace Darling."

Law and Police.

THE WIDOW'S MITE AND THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—A painful case connected with this failure came to light at Guildhall on Wednesday. Mrs. Susanna Chipp applied to Sir Chapman Marshall for his advice and assistance. She said her husband had been captain of the *Ide*, and on the 2nd of June last, he sailed from Jamaica for Liverpool in perfect health. On Tuesday she got a telegraphic message from Queenstown stating that her husband had died on the passage home, leaving her a widow with two children—that she went to the Royal British Bank, and drew out 320*l.*, which she had deposited there in December last. It was the amount of a legacy she had received on the death of her father, and it was all she had in the world to support herself and her children. One of her brothers, who was with her, and who has 300*l.* similarly deposited there, told the manager of the bank the circumstances of her misfortune, and that she wished to deposit the money for safety. The manager assured her it would be perfectly safe, and advised her to leave it. She had received the money in two notes, one for 300*l.* and one for 20*l.*, but upon that assurance she gave them up and received the usual deposit note about twelve o'clock. They left the bank, but from a rumour they heard they returned in about a quarter of an hour, and their astonishment was extreme when they found the door closed and a placard on it stating that the bank had "suspended payment during negotiations." She was now utterly ruined, having lost her husband, and, with the money, every other means of support. Sir Chapman Marshall, after consulting with Mr. Martin, the chief clerk, said he did not know that he could interfere, but as it was a case of the greatest hardship, he would send Mr. Roe, the officer of the court, with them to the bank. They accordingly accompanied him, and on their return, Mr. Roe stated that he had been admitted to the bank, and had seen a clerk, who took the deposit note to the directors, who were then sitting, and laid the applicant's case before them. When he returned, he said the directors dare not pay the money now, but they had no doubt but that everybody would be paid in full. With this assurance the poor widow was obliged to be satisfied for the present.

THE LAW OF MARRIAGE.—Some comments on the English law of marriage and divorce are reported in the *Liverpool Chronicle* as having been delivered by the stipendiary magistrate in a case of conjugal quarrelling brought before him. Charlotte Finchett, a middle-aged woman, possessing a most fiendish countenance, and attired in rags, was placed at the bar and charged with assaulting her husband. The woman had previously been before the magistrate on a similar charge, and, upon his suggestion, an arrangement was entered into, by which the husband allowed the wife four shillings per week for her maintenance. After living apart for some time, she implored her husband to take her back, promising to amend her conduct, and her solicitations being so earnest, he yielded to her desire, and matters went on favourably for a short time, when she renewed her old habits of coming home drunk and assaulting him and his workmen. She threw pieces of iron at him, pitched others into the street, abused the customers, and even beat them. She stripped her children of their clothes and pawned them for drink, and had otherwise so conducted herself as to call for the interference of the bench. Several of the complainant's witnesses, including policemen and others, deposed to the accuracy of the narrative given above, and added that the unfortunate woman was constantly drunk, had sold her children's clothes, their bedding, and every article she could procure and on which she could get money. Her language, too, was of the most abominable description. Mr. Mansfield, the stipendiary magistrate, said the law of this country was so constructed that if the wife stripped her children and sold their clothes she could not be punished as a

felon, the fiction of law holding that she took her own property. By a superstitious notion, or, perhaps, he might say, a delicacy of feeling, the sanctity of marriage was so regarded, that there was not any power, however abominable the wife's conduct might be, to obtain a divorce; and for a man to be linked to such a woman as this was a far greater punishment than if he carried a corpse upon his back until it rotted away from him. The course he should take would be calling on the woman to find very heavy bail—namely, two sureties in 50*l.* each, and be bound herself in 100*l.*, to keep the peace for twelve months. Bail, of course, was not forthcoming, and she was removed.

Literature.

Memoirs of the Life and Writings of James Montgomery. By JOHN HOLLAND and JAMES EVERETT. Vol. VII. London: Longman and Co.

THE Memoirs of Montgomery are here brought to a close. The editors are, we fear, only too much in the right in "acknowledging the liberality of the publishers, in engaging in *so voluminous* a work, which, *on several grounds*, was likely to be *the reverse of popular or profitable*." Our only complaint against the biographers is, and has all along been, that they have overlaid Montgomery's life with matter that not only does not illustrate his character, but has even less relation to him than to themselves; and that they have thus contrived, by dint of prosing, to make a good man and a true poet something of a bore, not merely to the "general reader," but to his very friends and admirers. An "Additional Preface" prefixed to this volume, contains some remarks on the treatment the work has met with from reviewers: but the writers do not at all relieve themselves and their work from the almost unanimous charges brought against them; nor do we see any reason for modifying our own previously expressed opinions. It is said that—"It must not be deemed impertinent or presumptuous if a position be claimed for the Memoirs of Montgomery, to which the Life of Cowper alone affords a precedent in our modern literature." This ought to be true, although the former would be of secondary interest, both poetical and religious, however appropriately written. But we are sorry to be compelled to say that Montgomery's Memoirs, as *here* prepared and published, cannot, without presumption, claim the position referred to.

Of this particular volume, however, we are bound to say, that it is more interesting and pleasing than those immediately preceding it; although it has many of the old faults of the biographers, and is almost entirely without incident or story. But its picture of the serene old age of the Christian poet is a pleasing and affecting one; and much of its gossip is unusually good and amusing. Mr. Holland gives an interesting account of a visit made by Montgomery, in 1847, to Wath, the village in which he spent that period of his youth occurring between his flight from Mirfield and the commencement of his residence in Sheffield. The promise to make this trip had been made and oft-renewed for twenty years, and it was suddenly at last that he consented to accompany Mr. Holland.

"To my surprise, in a few minutes we were careering along the *Midland* line. As our train did not stop at Wath, we left it at Swinton station, for a pleasant walk of about three miles, mostly between fine shady hedges. The sky was intensely blue and cloudless, reflecting the rays of the burning sun with a degree of intensity very favourable to the operations of hay-making, and no way inconvenient to our beloved friend, who, I need not tell you, never finds either his own room, or the weather without, *too hot*. The wild roses were in all their glory, and, at intervals, luscious troops of honeysuckles 'courted them,' as the poet says, from the opposite hedgetop: the deadly nightshade appeared not only harmless, but attractive in the bright dayspring: nor less so—

'The Bryony, with scendent shoot,
Reminding of its Mandrake root.'

But most of all were we struck with the large size, broad leaves, and rose-like bloom of the blackberry bushes. To Montgomery, who was always glad to turn to scriptural subjects, the sight of a magnificent *rubus* recalled *Jotham's fable of the Trees*, when they all said "unto the Bramble, Come thou and reign over us." I contented myself with quoting Elliott's exquisite little poem, 'The Wonders of the Lane,' and with his graceful apostrophe to our road-side companion, the Bramble:

'Though woodbines flaunt, and roses glow
O'er all the fragrant bowers,
Thou need'st not be ashamed to show
Thy satin-threaded flowers.'

We presently passed the house where Montgomery used to visit Brameld, the village bookseller; and the Swinton Church, 'in which,' said he, 'I once addressed a congregation, including some members of the Wentworth family.' You will readily believe that my fancy suggested—though I did not mention it—the contrast between the condition of the runaway boy at Wath, feeling his way to the metropolis through the intervention of the rural bibliopolis, and that of the eloquent Christian poet addressing a large audience in this church, in behalf of missionary enterprise, in the presence of Earl Fitzwilliam!

"After walking a little longer, we came in sight of 'the Queen of Villages,' the plain, but not inelegant, spire of the church, the large hall, the very handsome

Wesleyan chapel, and about a dozen good houses, forming, with the great number of intermingled orchard and other trees, with some beautiful scenery in the rich valley of the Dearne, a very pleasing picture. A few minutes more and we were in Wath;—Montgomery, after an interval of forty years, once more perambulating the village, where, as he said, at the time of his residence, 'there was not one shabby house, nor hardly an indigent family:' adding, 'I recollect, indeed, there was one pauper died during the overseership of my old master, Hunt, who had a passing-bell rung for him, which, I dare say, is not done ever here now-a-days.' As we sauntered along the streets, our friend mentioned the names of many persons who occupied the houses on either hand half-a-century ago; till coming to the good, plain, gray-stone building, which you well enough remember—'and this,' said he, 'was our house; the second window over the door there being that of my bedroom.' We entered, and found the tenant very courteous, and ready to show us over the premises. . . . We next proceeded to the house of the parish clerk to obtain access to the church and grave-ground, where the action of the poet's 'Vigil of St. Mark' is laid:

'That silent, solemn, simple spot,
The moulderling realm of peace,
Where human passions are forgot,
Where human follies cease.'

On my naming to the sub-clerical functionary that my companion was Mr. Montgomery, of whom he might perhaps have heard, he promptly expressed his respect for 'the gentleman of that name,' whom he had once known as a youth in Mr. Hunt's shop, and of whose subsequent fame as a poet he had often heard, but he seemed rather to doubt the identity of those characters with the individual before him. All suspicion, however, vanished instantly that Montgomery adverted to the more than local celebrity of the clerk's father, 'old Billy Evers,' as a fiddler—his music having, we believe, occasionally mingled with that of Dr. Miller, and his protégé, Handel, in those private concerts at the adjacent village of Bolton, which are mentioned by Southey in 'The Doctor.' . . . There is one good inn at Wath; but we, influenced at the moment by 'auld lang syne,' ate our chop at the 'Star,' the principal radiance of which was the recollection, that there the travellers who came to Hunt's shop used to 'put up.' . . . We took a glass of wine with old Mr. Johnson, a hale and thriving village liquor-merchant, who received us most heartily, but startled me not a little by a remark to this effect: 'Mr. Montgomery, I think you have never been married; I have only this very day been talking to my wife about the verses you wrote on Hannah Turner!' This was like catching a butterfly with a pair of blacksmith's tongs; and I instantly changed the subject of conversation."

We also cull two or three little bits of anecdote.

"On his way home one night, Montgomery was overtaken by a decent working man, who, after a prologue of apologies for personal intrusion, asked the poet if he would kindly answer a question which he (the stranger) had long wished to put to him. 'Yes,' replied Montgomery, 'any proper question.' 'Well, then,' said the man, 'I have been told that you wrote the *Arabian Nights*,—is that the fact?' Montgomery felt it somewhat difficult to retain his gravity while giving an answer, which, it was evident, lessened his credit as an author amazingly in the estimation of his humble and simple townsman."

"Montgomery was admiring with Mrs. Roberts, a superb cactus flower. Holland: 'It might be a fitting ornament for an angel's bosom, if one could admit the idea of a female angel.' Montgomery (sharply): 'And why not?' Holland: 'I think it would be anomalous to all our ordinary notions of such intelligences.' Montgomery: 'And yet, poetically at least, the term angel has very often been applied to woman, and rarely to man, as such';—a delicate compliment this, which his lovely hostess heard and appreciated. Holland: 'I am aware you have Mrs. Roberts on your side, and perhaps also the Rev. Mr. Houghton, whose work *On Sex in the World to Come*, I should like to read, as I have myself written an essay to prove that there will be neither distinction of sex, nor personal recognition in heaven.' Montgomery: 'I am aware that such is your opinion; but others think differently: as neither you nor Mr. Houghton really know anything at all about the matter, he had better have left it alone; and I advise you, at all events, not to print your work.'"

"Mr. Holland read to Mr. Montgomery a spirited article on the current number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, relative to some strictures by Lord John Russell, on a review of 'Moore's Memoirs,' in the *Quarterly*. Montgomery was very much entertained by the subject: stopping the reader more than once, to ask whether the book was the old 'Gentleman's Magazine,' which he used to look into, many years ago, for matters of a very different kind?"

Montgomery was usually appreciative and fair towards his contemporaries. Mr. Holland has been at some pains to preserve a conversational remark, which exhibits him as failing to understand and appreciate Tennyson, and complacently implying his own poetical superiority to the Laureate!

"Montgomery: 'Have you read Tennyson's *In Memoriam*?' Holland: 'Yes; but it is much too transcendental for my taste; the more the pity, I suppose, so far as my own loss of enjoyment is concerned.' Montgomery: 'I am myself much in your predicament; I have read the poem carefully, I should say, resolutely, through, which I suspect not ten other persons in Sheffield have done; but I confess I cannot enjoy it. The title-page itself is an affectation of unmeaning simplicity, so much so, indeed, that I, who was not otherwise in the poet's secret, was some time before I could make out his subject from the opening verses, which, while they flowed as smoothly and brightly as transparent oil over a polished surface, might apply to a butterfly, or a bird, or a lady, as well as to the individual who I found after a while, was indicated as their subject. If I had published such a volume forty years since, not only would the public have turned up both knees to curse me the more earnestly. But times and tastes have altered; and Tennyson is the pet poet of the day.'"

It seems almost incredible that Montgomery should utter such a criticism. The "If I had

published it"—the idea of Montgomery coming poetically within a thousand leagues of Tennyson—is, without disparagement to Montgomery's unquestionable genius, rather rich; and there is something unpleasant in the sneer implied in the words "pet poet." Mr. Holland's scornful quotation from Mr. Brimley's fine criticism of Tennyson's works in the *Cambridge Essays*, only shows that he has himself misapprehended the meaning of the very words he quotes.

In 1853, Montgomery, being then eighty-two years of age, published a complete edition of his "Original Hymns." Of these we need not speak; they are too well known: some will live for ever in the services of all English Churches; others, especially those of later date, are very feeble and unpoetical; and the volume as a whole is wanting in diversity of subject, in range of thought, and sometimes in robustness of religious feeling.

On Saturday, April 29th, 1854, Montgomery came home apparently as usual:—

"But in the evening, though he did not complain, he appeared fidgetty; and at family worship somewhat surprised Miss Gales by handing to her the Bible, with the remark, 'Sarah, you must read.' She did so; he then knelt down, and prayed with a peculiar pathos and tremor of voice, which excited attention but led to no remark, as he afterwards conversed while smoking his pipe, as was his custom before retiring to rest. Nothing was heard of him during the night; and about eight o'clock in the morning one of the servants knocked at his chamber door, but receiving no answer she opened it, and saw her master on the floor. On obtaining assistance and helping him into bed, he presently recovered consciousness, and said he believed he had been some hours on the floor, and apprehended he had suffered an attack of paralysis. Mr. Favell was immediately summoned; he came at once, declared there were no symptoms of paralysis, and stayed till his patient had so rallied, apparently in every respect, that he left him with the confidence and assurance of prompt restoration; and so far did this augury appear justified that he ate a little dinner, and conversed with Miss Gales as usual. Mr. Favell saw him again at noon, when he appeared not only better, but cheerful. About half-past three in the afternoon, while Miss Gales was sitting by his bedside, and watching him apparently asleep, she noticed a sudden but slight alteration in his features. In a few minutes the spirit fled; and clay, placid and beautiful even in its inanimation, was all that remained on earth of one who had previously filled so large a space in the living sympathy of his fellow-creatures."

This work has doubtless been to the biographers a "labour of love;" and we part from them with so much good feeling as to make it the more painful not to be able to command their judgment.

England in Time of War. By SYDNEY DOBELL.

London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

SYDNEY YENDYS, author of "The Roman" and "Balder," here appears under his own name,—a name not wholly unknown to literary circles, even before its public acknowledgment. If this were the first work of the author, it could leave no one in doubt that he is a man of genius, and a true poet,—a poet rich in materials drawn from life and experience, from a deep and sincere study of human nature, and from a delicately appreciative communion with natural beauty,—a poet who has a glorious imagination, warm passion, and a remarkably varied and expressive language; and who, in spite of artistic deficiencies, crudities, eccentricities, and obscurities of thought and speech, has much of the highest intellect and of the purest dramatic spirit. But when this volume is taken up as the expression of the same mind which has produced *Balder* and *The Roman*—each so original and powerful in its own way,—it must be confessed that this mind is singularly wealthy in diversified gifts and resources. Probably this collection of poems has cost the author less thought and elaboration than *Balder* did; and certainly it has not the reflective depths of that strange, faulty, but really great poem: yet, we intend to maintain that it is not only worthy of what has preceded it, but that it is in advance of all that the author has previously done, has more artistic facility, and more of essential poetry, and is certain to extend and perpetuate his fame.

"England in Time of War" is a title needing a word of explanation. The book is a collection of poems,—most of them such as Robert Browning calls "Dramatic Lyrics,"—in which the poet assumes the character and speaks in the persons of a large variety of individuals, such as, here in England, "in time of war," were turning their eyes to the seat of conflict, straining their ears for tidings of its progress and events, with hearts thrilled with love and fear, or lifted up with enthusiasm and pride, or sickened with anxiety and "hope deferred," or bowed down with desolation and bereavement. They give voices to these innumerable hearts, that, in the thronged city, in banchial halls, in country solitudes, and in widow's cottages, were absorbed in the fates of their loved ones gone forth to war, or, sometimes, in the honour and glory of their country as represented by our brave soldiers in that bloody strife. Surely, this is an inexhaustibly rich field for the poet,—not less so than the scene and incident, the terror and the grandeur, of the battle-field itself. And it is a comparatively new field, and Mr. Dobell has made it truly his own, and has found in it full scope for imagination, passion, pathos, and a pe-

culiar species of infolded drama. We shall make our description of these poems best understood, and our praise of their many excellences will be best vindicated, by quoting one of them entire,—and it shall be one of the simplest and shortest, yet one originally and naturally conceived—"How's my boy?"

"Ho, Sailor of the sea!
How's my boy—my boy?"
"What's your boy's name, good wife,
And in what good ship sailed he?"
"My boy John—
He that went to sea—
What care I for the ship, sailor?
My boy's my boy to me."
"You come back from the sea,
And not know my John?
I might as well have asked some landman
Yonder down in the town.
There's not an ass in all the parish
But he knows my John."
"How's my boy—my boy?
And unless you let me know
I'll swear you are no sailor,
Blue jacket or no,
Brass buttons or no, sailor,
Anchor and crown or no!
Sure his ship was the 'Jolly Briton'!"—
"Speak low, woman, speak low!"
"And why should I speak low, sailor,
About my own boy John?
If I was as loud as I am proud
I'd sing him over the town!
Why should I speak low, sailor?"
"—That good ship went down."
"How's my boy—my boy?
What care I for the ship, sailor,
I was never aboard her.
Be she afloat or be she aground,
Sinking or swimming, I'll be bound,
Her owners can afford her!
I say, how's my John?"
"Every man on board went down,
Every man aboard her."
"How's my boy—my boy?
What care I for the men, sailor?
I'm not their mother—
How's my boy—my boy?
Tell me of him and no other!
How's my boy—my boy?"

If this little poem, so touching in its simplicity and truth, leads the reader into sympathy with Mr. Dobell's purpose, he will proceed with increased pleasure and admiration through this song of the "*Lady Constance*":—

"My love, my lord,
I think the toil of glorious day is done.
I see thee leaning on thy jewelled sword,
And a light-hearted child of France
Is dancing to thee in the sun,
And thus he carols in his dance.
Oh, a gallant sans peur
Is the merry chasseur,
With his fanfaron horn and his rifle ping-pang!
And his grand havresack
Of gold on his back,
His pistol cric-crac!
And his sword clang-clang!
Oh, to see him blythe and gay
From some hot and bloody day,
Come to dance the night away till the bugle blows "au rang,"
With a wheel and a whirl,
And a wheeling waltzing girl,
And his bow, "place aux dames!" and his oath "feu et sang!"
And his hop and his fling
Till his gold and silver ring
To the clatter and the clash of his sword clang-clang!
But hark,
Tho' the dark
Up goes the well-known shout!
The drums beat the turn out!
Cut short your courting, Monsieur l'Amant!
Saddle! mount! march! trot!
Down comes the storm of shot,
The foe is at the charge! En avant!
His jolly havresack
Of gold is in his pack,
Hear his pistol cric-crac, hear his rifle ping-pang!
Vive l'Empereur!
And where's the Chasseur?
He's in
Among the din
Steel to steel, clang-clang!"

And thou within the doorway of thy tent
Leanest at ease with careless brow unbent,
Watching the dancer in as pleased a dream,
As if he were a gnat i' the evening gleam,
And thou and I were sitting side by side
Within the happy bower
Where oft at this same hour
We watched them the sweet year was a bride.
My love, my lord,
Leaning so grandly on thy jewelled sword,
Is there no thought of home to whisper thee,
None can relieve the weary guard I keep,
None wave the flag of breathing truce for me,
Nor sound the hours to slumber or to weep?
Once in a moon the bugle breaks thy rest,
I count my days by trumpets and alarms;
Thou liest down in thy war-cloak and art blest,
While I, who cannot sleep but in thine arms,
Wage night and day fresh fields unknown to fame,
Arm, marshal, march, charge, fight, fall, faint, and die,
Know all a soldier can endure but shame,
And every chance of warfare but to fly.
I do not murmur at my destiny:
It can but go with love, with whom it came,
And love is like the sun—his light is sweet,
And sweet his shadow—welcome both to me!"

Aye, love is sweet
In shine or shade! But love hath jealousy,
That knowing but so little thinks so much!
And I am jealous of thee even with such
A fatal knowledge. For I wot too well
In the set season that I cannot tell
Death will be near thee. This thought doth defour
All innocence from time. I dare not say
"Not now," but for the instant cull the hour,
And for the hour reap all the doubtful day,
And for the day the year: and so, forlorn,
From morn till night, from startled night till morn,
Like a blind slave I bear thine heavy ill
Till thy time comes to take it: come when 'twill
The broken slave will bend beneath it still."

How deep this is! how full of love and anguish, and loneliness and weariness, and half-reining and of full submission. We need not point out that it has, too, its vivid little picture, that the dancer's carol is full of the music of the dance, and that every descriptive or imitative word is perfectly expressive.

The book is relieved by contrasts, in which, while the "war time" is still implied, home scenes, as they are, and home feelings in their purity, make up the poem, and, by their very dissimilitude, heighten the colour, and intensify the feeling, of the poems in which a foreign land, and battle, and terror, and sorrow, intrude themselves even on home and solitude. There are, too, other reliefs to its prevailing character as dramatic-lyric, in three fine poems—not always, however, engaging sympathy by their sentiment—entitled "A Psalm of the Heart," "A Prayer of the Understanding," and "An Aspiration of the Spirit."

But the book has faults—or, rather among several almost perfect poems, there are others exceedingly faulty. These are chiefly those in which Mr. Dobell has resorted to repetition, as if, in some cases, to steep the poem in one characteristic, over-mastering emotion; or, in others, to imply scenery not described, or to produce one deep and familiar impression. Here is an instance of what we mean:—

"Oh thou moody main,
Are thy mermaid cells a-ring?
Are thy mermaid sisters singing?
The saddest shell of every cell
Ringing still, and ringing
Farewell, farewell!
To the sinking sighing singing,
To the floating flying singing,
To the deepening dying singing,
In the swell,
Farewell, farewell!
And the failing wailing ringing
The reaming dreaming ringing
Of fainter cell in deeper cell,
To the sunken sunken singing,
Farewell, farewell!
Farewell, farewell, farewell!"

There is undoubtedly an effect of sound as well as of description in these lines, with their alliteration, rhyme in successive words, and frequent repetition; but the artifice is pushed quite far enough, if not already too far. But can there be two opinions as to the fact of excess, and an excess destructive of the intended effect, in these lines?—

"Oh, weary, weary day,
Oh, weary, weary day,
Oh, day so weary; oh, day so dreary,
Oh, weary, weary, weary, weary,
Oh, weary, weary!"

Or, as to these?—considering that there is the same repetition in six stanzas?—

"Oh the wold, the wold,
Oh the wold, the wold!
Oh the cold sigh,
Oh the hollow cry,
The lean and hollow cry,
Oh the wold, the wold, the wold!"

In "*The Recruit's Ball*," the scene, the music, and the motion of rude dancing, are conveyed perfectly to the reader's mind—as a single stanza will show—the "fiddler loquiter":—

"Heigho, fiddlestick, fiddlestick, fiddlestick,
Heigho, fiddlestick, fiddle for a king!
Heigh, pretty Kitty! heigh, jolly Folly!
Up with the heels, girls! fling, lasses fling!
Heigh there! stay there! that's not the way, there!
Oh, Johnny, Johnny,
Oh, Johnny, Johnny,
Ho, ho, everybody all round the ring!"

But such a word-jig is only amusing, and that only for once and away; and Mr. Dobell should be no jig-maker. It would be easy to string together all such passages as the above, and then declare the book worthless, and Mr. Dobell ridiculous;—and this most unfair and discreditable course has been taken by some of our contemporaries; but we assure our readers that such faulty repetitions are not only not the staple of the book, as certain critics would have the public think, but occur only in a few instances, and are inconsiderable, when compared with the amount and the merit of the remainder.

We cannot speak of all the pieces that have pleased us, but, before closing the volume, snatch a passage from the very beautiful and thoughtful poem, "*A Shower in War-Time*":—

"Then out of the sweet warm weather
There came a little wind sighing, sighing:
Came to the wood sighing, and sighing went in,

Sighed through the green grass, and o'er the leaves brown,
Sighed to theingle, and, sighing, lay down,
While all the flowers whispered together.
Then came swift winds after her who was lying,
Swift bright winds with a jocund din,
Sought her in vain, her bosom was so good,
And spread like baffled revellers through the wood.
Then from bough, and leaf, and bell,
The great round drops, the clear round drops,
In fitful ecstacy drooped and fell—
Drooped and fell, as if some wanton air
Were more apparent here and there,
Sphere'd on a favourite flower in dewy kiss,
Grew heavy with delight and drooped with bliss.
Rain, rain, sweet warm rain,
On the wood and on the plain;
Rain, rain, still and sweet,
For the winds have hushed again,
And the nightingale is still,
Sleeping in her central seat.
Rain, rain, summer rain,
Silent as the summer heat,
Doth it fall, or doth it rise?
Is it incense from the hill,
Or bounty from the skies?
Or is the face of earth that lies
Languid, looking up on high,
To the face of heaven so high
That their balmy breathings meet?
Rain, rain, summer rain,
On the wood and on the plain;
Rain, rain, rain, until
The tall wet trees no more athirst,
As each chalice green doth fill,
See the pigmy nations nurst
Round their distant feet, and throw
The nectar to the herbs below.
The drouthy herbs, without a sound,
Drink it ere it reach the ground.
Rain, rain, sweet warm rain,
On the wood and on the plain,
And round me like a dropping wall,
The great round drops they fall and fell.
I say not War is good or ill;
Perchance they may slay if they will,
Who killing love, and loving kill.
I do not join yon captive's din;
Some man among us without sin
Perhaps may rightly look him in.
I do not grant the Tyrant's plea;
The slaves potential to be free
Already are the Powers that be.
Whether our bloodsheds flow or cease,
I know that as the years increase,
The flower of all is human peace.
"The Flower." Vertumnus hath repute
O'er Flora; yet methinks the fruit
But alter ego of the root;
And that which serves our fleshly need,
Subserve the blossom that doth feed
The soul which is the life indeed.
Nor well he deems who deems the rose
Is for the roseberry, nor knows
The roseberry is for the rose.
And Autumn's garnered treasury,
But prudent Nature's guarantee,
That Summer evermore shall be.
And yearly, once a year, complete
That top and culmen exquisite
Whereto the slanting seasons meet.
Whether our bloodsheds flow or cease,
I know that as the years increase,
The flower of all is human peace.
"The Flower." Yet whether shall we sow
A blossom or a seed? I know
The flower will rot, the seed will grow.
By this the rain had ceased, and I went forth
From that Dodona green of oak and beech."

The rain, the soft summer rain, never was so exquisitely and refreshingly brought into a poet's scene, as in the opening of this passage:—the penetrating reflections of the poet himself, as he stands with the rain falling around him, let those who have ears and intellects, hear and understand.

The length of our extracts needs no apology; nor does the book that can furnish such need other commendation.

Typical Forms and Special Ends in Creation.
By Rev. J. M'COSH, LL.D., Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in the Queen's University in Ireland; and author of "The Method of the Divine Government," &c.; and GEORGE DICKIE, A.M., M.D., Professor of Natural History in the Queen's University in Ireland. Edinburgh: T. Constable and Co.

ONE of the most interesting and suggestive subjects opened up by science to the natural theologian, is the General Plan and Order prevailing in the various kingdoms of nature—the existence of a Pattern or Type, after which every object is constructed with more or less precision,—and the traces of Special Adaptation, by which each is made to serve a Particular End, and is, while conformed to the type, modified, or accommodated to the situation it has to occupy and the purpose it is designed to fulfil. This is the subject which is here taken up by two every-way competent men; and, in treating it, they have made an extensive induction of facts, from all departments of the material world, for the establishment and illustration of the two principles to which we have adverted. It is most justly said by them, that, "in respect of this order of facts, natural theology can

now take a step in advance, in consequence of what has been done of late years in the discovery of homologies by the sciences of comparative anatomy and morphological botany;" while the new discoveries in regard to the homology of parts are shown, not only not to set aside, but to extend and confirm "the old doctrine of the teleology of parts, or adaptation of every organ to a special end."

In an Analysis of the Order of Nature, an answer is attempted to the old and ever-reviving question, What is the general meaning of the laws which reign throughout the material world? —and the reply is, that every law of nature which can be said to be correctly ascertained, exhibits Order in respect of such qualities as Number, Time, Colour, and Form. Thus, as to order in respect of Number, it is, as Sir John Herschell has said, "the character of all the higher laws of nature to assume the form of a precise quantitative statement." Two of the laws of Kepler,—the law of gravitation,—and chemical laws—for instance, the great law which lies at the basis of all compositions and decompositions of substances—are laws of numbers. Some simpler, but not less interesting, examples of numerical order, may be taken from other fields. Thus, in the mammalia, "seven is the number of the vertebrae of the neck; and this, whether it be long, as in the giraffe, short as in the elephant, flexible as in the camel, or firm as in the whale." Or turn to the vegetable kingdom. In the lowest division of plants—the acrogynous or flowerless—the prevailing number is two and multiples of two, thus, "2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, &c., are the number of teeth in the mouth of the capsule in mosses." In endogenous plants, which form the next class, three and its multiples is the prevailing number: and in the highest class, the exogenous, five and its multiples is the typical number. Again, "the arrangement of the leaf appendages of plants generally" is regulated by "a curious series, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, &c., in which any two numbers added together give the succeeding one." But there is, also, an order of nature in respect of Time. This principle may almost be expressed by the word Periodicity; and we have illustrations of it in the celestial motions, the very irregularities of which are periodical, and as methodical as the uniform motions. It is exhibited also, in the progression to maturity, and the allotted duration of the whole life, of every living creature: and it appears even in the variations of magnetism on the surface of the earth. The order of Colour has been less scientifically traced, and is less generally recognised. Our authors say truly, that "it has been a very general impression that colour is spread indiscriminately over the surface of earth and sky, animal and plant;" but they maintain the certainty of "fixed principles in the distribution of colour;" and show, at considerable length, "that the distribution of colours in the vegetable kingdom is in beautiful accordance with the now established laws of harmonious, and especially of complementary colours;" and point out some interesting relations of colour "in the decorations of insects, in the spots and stripes of wild beasts, and in the plumage of birds."

But it is on the point of Order in Form, that the subject gains its highest interest, and takes the most scientific shape. The word Form is intended to express, as used here, "not only figure, but structure—the relation or connexion of forms." It is "a significant element in every department of nature." Thus, the chief questions connected with the heavenly bodies and their movements are known to have their solution in the properties of the ellipse. Again, all minerals are known to crystallise; each assumes certain crystalline forms, and no others; and these forms are mathematically exact. Here, however, we shall proceed by means of an extract.

"It is among organised objects that we find form assuming the highest significance. Every living object, composed though it be of a number, commonly a vast number and complication of parts, takes, as a whole, a definite shape, and there is likewise a normal shape for each of its organs. The general or normal form which any particular tribe of plants or animals assumes is called its type. Animals and vegetables, it is well known, are classified according to type; and they can be so arranged, because types are really found in nature, and are not the mere creation of human reason or fancy. It is because attention is paid to type, and because it is so fixed and universal, that it is possible to arrange into groups the innumerable natural objects by which we are surrounded. Without some such principles of unity to guide him, man would have felt himself lost, as in a forest, among the works of God, and this because of their very multiplicity and variety. In some cases the forms assumed by organic objects are mathematically regular. A series of beautiful rhomboidal figures, with definite angles, may be observed on the surface of the cones of pines and firs. It may be noticed, too, how the leaves and branches of the plant are placed round the axis in sets of spirals. The spiral structure is also very evident both in the turbinated and discoidal shells of molluscs. Mr. Moseley has shown, that the size of the whorls, and the distance between contiguous whorls in these shells, follow a geometrical progression, and the spiral formed is the logarithmic, of which it is a property, that it has everywhere the same geometrical curvature, and is the only curve except the circle, which possesses this property. Following this law, the animal winds its dwelling in a

uniform direction through the space round its axis. 'There is traced,' says Mr. Moseley, 'in the shell, the application of properties of a geometric curve to a mechanical purpose, by Him who metes the dimensions of space, and stretches out the forms of matter according to the rules of a perfect geometry.' We are reminded of the ancient Platonic maxim, that Deity proceeds by geometry. The lower tribes of animals and plants often assume mathematically regular forms, such as the triangular, polygonal, cylindrical, spherical, and elliptical. It is seldom, however, that we meet with such rigid mathematical figures in the sublime of the higher orders of organic beings. Those who have any sense of beauty will be grateful that trees are not triangular, that animals are not circular in their outline; in short, that they have not taken any such painfully-exact shapes. Still, the forms of organic objects—such as the sweep of the veins of leaves and the outlines of trees—though more flowing and waving, are evidently regular curves. There is truth, we suspect, in a favourite maxim of Oersted, 'that inorganic beings constitute the elementary, and organic the higher geometry of nature.' Besides the typical resemblances which enable us to classify plants and animals, and the beautiful curves which do so gratify the contemplative intellect, there are certain correspondences in the structure of organs which seem to us to be especially illustrative of a plan intelligently devised and systematically pursued at an early date. These struck the attention of persons addicted to deep reflection; but it is only within these few years that they have been scientifically investigated and expounded. Aristotle noticed the correspondence between the hands of men, the fore-limbs of mammals, and the wings of birds, and between the limbs of these animals and the fins of fishes, and spoke of it as an interesting species of analogy. The profound mind of Newton used to muse upon the symmetry of the animal frame: 'Similiter positis omnia in omnibus ferunt animalibus.' These correspondences, so far as vertebrate and certain parts of invertebrate animals are concerned, have now been examined with great care, and we have a set of well-defined phrases to explain them.

"A homologue is defined as the same organ in different animals, under every variety of form and structure. Thus the arms and feet of man, the fore and hind feet of quadrupeds, the wings and feet of birds, and the fins of fishes, are all said to be homologous.

"The corresponding or serially repeated parts in the same animal are called homotypes. Thus the fingers and toes of man, indeed the fore and hind limbs of vertebrate animals generally, are said to be homotypal.

"The phrase analogue has been reserved for another curious correspondence, found both in the animal and vegetable kingdoms. By an analogue is meant an organ in one animal having the same function as a different organ in a different animal. The difference between homologue and analogue may be illustrated by the wing of a bird and that of a butterfly; as the two totally differ in anatomical structure they cannot be said to be homologous, but they are analogous in function, since they both serve for flight.

"These phrases, and ideas on which they are founded, have taken their rise from the animal kingdom. But similar, though by no means identical, correspondences have been detected in the vegetable kingdom. The branch of botanical science which treats of the forms of plants is called morphology, and is now regarded as the fundamental department of botany. We shall show, as we proceed, that comparative anatomy and vegetable morphology supply illustrations, at once copious and striking, of an all-prevailing order in nature in respect of form or structure."

We have confined ourselves to exhibiting the idea and purpose of this volume; but it will, of course, be understood, that its real interest must be sought in its second and third books; in which, passing beyond general principles, the authors have collected, with a knowledge the fulness and scientific character of which must be spoken of with admiration, a "Co-ordinated Series of Facts, giving Indications of Combined Order and Adaptation throughout the various Kingdoms of Nature;" and have given an "Interpretation of the Facts," distinguished by a strong grasp of the materials and by keen intelligence, pervaded by the true philosophical spirit, and written with remarkable clearness and power. The chapter on the "Correspondence between the Laws of the Material World and the Faculties of the Human Mind," is one of the most interesting, suggestive, and happily written pieces of popular—yet anything but superficial—philosophical writing, that we have lately met with. The chapter on the "Typical Systems of Nature and Revelation," seems to us the weakest place in the book. But, as a whole, this treatise is the most scientific contribution recently made to Natural Theology; and is better fitted than any other work known to us, to the present state and temper of the scientific mind generally. It is its grand merit that it boldly attempts that which is preeminently the task of the religious philosopher in this age,—and that it is highly successful in the attempt,—to show that the brilliant discoveries and sublime generalisations of modern masters in natural science, which have been extensively regarded, and often vaunted, as destructive to the positions of revelation, as to a Divine government in nature, and even as to the existence of a personal God, are really not hostile, but, when rationally interpreted, in the highest degree favourable to theology, both natural and revealed. The Argument from Combined Order and Adaptation is most carefully and prudently stated;—without that strain which theological writers have too often put on the general argument from design; and with a clear judicial estimate of what the facts, and their interpretation according to such internal principles of the human mind as are involved in its very constitution, do really contain and indubitably establish.

Cleanings.

There is now a very fine spot upon the sun. The planet Jupiter is a very fine object in the south-east every evening.

The Prince of Wales made his *début* as a sportsman last week, in the Osborne covers, where there is plenty of game. His Royal Highness is said to be likely to prove a good shot.

The eminent brewers, Messrs. Barclay, Perkins, and Co. have, for a long time past, paid the men on a Friday. They have also given notice to their customers that the gates are closed on Saturdays at two o'clock.

Spare moments are like the gold dust of time. Of all the portions of our life, spare moments are the most fruitful in good or evil. They are the gaps through which temptations find the easiest access to the garden of the soul.

We (*Athenaeum*) understand that Mlle. Piccolomini's "Le Traviat" in the provinces has been, in certain cases (as at Birmingham), a success of empty benches, and a triumph at which no ladies chose to be present.

The remains of Dr. Buckland were deposited in a characteristic resting-place, in the solid rock below Lulp. The rock was blasted, and the body was interred in a cavity lined with Portland cement to keep out the water. He has left by his will all the curious contents of his museum at Oxford to the University.

The famous "Charter Oak" at Hartford, Connecticut, fell on the 21st ult. with a tremendous crash, leaving only about six feet of the stump. This tree was far past its prime when the Charter was concealed in it on the 8th of May, 1689, and was probably an old tree when Columbus discovered the New World.

The facility of railroad communication in our day is very pointedly illustrated in an anecdote before us, wherein a gentleman, inquiring of a negro the distance to a certain place, receives this reply:—"Dat 'pends on circumstances, massa. If you gwine afoot, it take you 'bout a day; if you gwine in the stage or honeybus, you make it in half a day; but if you git in one of dese smoke wagons, you almos' dare now."

The *Utica Observer* says the following message was handed in to the local telegraph office:—"Third Epistle of John, 13, 14." So brief a despatch was transmitted at the lowest charge, and yet it comprehended this message:—"I had many things, but I will not with pen and ink write unto thee. But I trust I shall shortly see thee, and we shall speak face to face. Our friends salute thee. Greet the friends by name."

A Methodist minister at the West, who lived on a very small salary, was greatly troubled at one time to get his quarterly instalment. He at last told the paying trustee that he must have the money, as his family were suffering from the necessities of life. "Money!" replied the steward, "you preach for money! I thought you preached for the good of souls." "Souls!" replied the minister, "I can't eat souls; and, if I could, it would take a thousand such as yours to make a decent meal."—*American Paper*.

As Lord Stanley and the other eminent promoters of the Reformatory Union were on their tour of inspection to the various reformatory institutions in the neighbourhood of Bristol, they used an omnibus and four for their conveyance. This unusual equipage, joined with the bright azure head-knots of the horses, attracted popular attention in some radical districts, where the inhabitants having heard that it "was the Earl of Derby canvassing for Tories," saluted the illustrious tourist with lusty cries of "Down with the Blues!" Lord Stanley appeared surprised and amused at this "party demonstration."—*Cheltenham Examiner*.

The *Northern Ensign* says:—"In one of the parishes on the east coast of Sutherland, where the congregation was composed of two families, it happened that one of these families—a late importation from about Duane Head—had gone over to the Free Church; the other, two elderly maiden ladies, remaining as the flock of the parish minister. But the minister, in addressing the congregation thus *femininely* constituted, still uses the words 'brethren,' and 'my brethren,' much to the chagrin of these worthy persons, who feel insulted at their being thus *masculined*. Would it not be more courteous, and indeed more in accordance with the fact, that the gentleman should use the term 'sisters?' If some such change of expression does not take place, we fear it will soon be seen that these birds will also leave their nest and fly away."

The Paris correspondent of the *Atlas* relates the following interesting anecdote respecting Lamartine: It seems that some time ago, being struck more than ever by the enormous sum to which his debts amounted, and talking seriously of the state of his affairs with a friend, the latter urged him to take some vigorous steps towards redressing his position. Subscriptions were pouring in from all parts of France; this Lamartine owned; but, still, somehow, the debts diminished not. "Well, then let us agree," said the friend, "that as fast as the money comes in, you shall place it in the strong box through the hole in the top, and I will keep the key, and distribute it according to the claims of the divers creditors, and so by degrees diminish the load of interest you are paying." Nothing could suit the post better than this arrangement; it was charming, delightful, the very thing to begin immediately. So the friend took away the key of the box, besides a whole roll of unrecited bills, with which he was to make the best compromise he could. At the end of a few days he returned. "Well, how much can you spare me," said he; "the temptation of ready money is irresistible; many of these cheaps will consent to take half, provided it be paid directly." "Alas," said Lamartine, hesitatingly, "I fear it will be some time before I can let you have anything worth speaking of." How so?" exclaimed the friend in astonishment; "it

was only this morning I read in the paper what an enormous sum had been received for new subscriptions." "True enough," replied the poet, with a sigh; "but it is all gone." "But you promised me faithfully to put it in the box," said the friend angrily. "And so I did," returned Lamartine, in a sheepish tone. "Well, then," said the Mentor, in astonishment. "Why, I broke it open last night"—hurriedly replied the poor stricken poet—"such a dreadful tale of distress, you would have done as much I am sure—dishonour—imprisonment—suicide—all held up before me—impossible to resist, and me for it is all gone; but never mind; cheer up; I must set to and work hard; we shall soon get more, never fear." Needless to tell of the friend's anger, nor of the reproaches with which he assailed the poet. He carried away the broken box, however, and vowed to tell the story which, albeit he is no poet himself, he cannot do without tears in his eyes—cautious his children the while against such folly which has brought Lamartine to the position in which he stands.

Any of our readers who have a special talent for languages may find full exercise for their powers in the dialect of the sturdy Afghan. There is a story in the East that a certain king commanded his Vazir to give him specimens of all the most remarkable languages in the world. The Vazir, a sort of Mezzofant in his way, went on for some time with his task, now quoting an author in this language and now in that, when suddenly he stopped, seemed to ponder for a time, and then craved permission to be absent; a moment from the Darbar. Permission being granted he went out, but presently returned with a metal pot half filled with stones, which he shook so as to make an intolerable noise. The king asked the meaning of this strange behaviour. "Asylum of the world," replied the Vazir, "I am now, to the best of my feeble ability, furnishing your majesty with a specimen of Pushtu, to the pronunciation of which those sounds are the nearest approach that can be made. Whether from this proverbial ruggedness of sound, or not, certain it is that few languages spoken over so large a tract of country have received so little attention from scholars as the Afghan."

BIRTHS.

Aug. 22, at Gloucester-terrace, Victoria-park-road, Hackney, the wife of Mr. THOMAS C. TARRING, of a son.

Sept. 3, the wife of Mr. S. J. REDGATE, Lansdowne Villa, Croydon, Surrey, of a daughter.

Sept. 4, at 12, Kensington Palace-gardens, Lady PROVO, of a daughter.

Sept. 4, the wife of the Rev. J. CLIFFORD HOOD, of Chelsea, of a daughter.

Sept. 4, at Ebbw Vale, Monmouthshire, the wife of Mr. JOHN THOMAS TURNER, of a son.

Sept. 4, the wife of the Rev. B. GRAY, B.A., of Blandford, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 31, at Wellington-terrace, East Melbourne, Australia, by the Rev. Adam Cairns, D.D., ALEXANDER C. LLOYD, son of JOHN DUPLAN LLOYD, Esq., of The Grove, Camberwell, London, to ELIZABETH, third daughter of JOHN TOMKINS, Esq., also of Camberwell.

Sept. 3, at the Independent Chapel, Wem, Salop, by the Rev. WM. CHAMBERS, JOHN BRAVIS, son of MR. BUNDY, Newcastle-under-Lyne, Staffordshire, to ANNE, the second daughter of MR. WM. HARRIS, Morton House, Shropshire.

Sept. 4, at St. James's Church, Louis, by the Rev. W. LYC, M.A., HENRY LEE, eldest son of MR. A. H. WRIGHT, Evesham, to EMMA, third daughter of MR. W. JACKSON.

Sept. 4, by licence, at the Milton Congregational Church, Rochdale, by the Rev. Henry William Parkinson, Mr. BENJAMIN BARLOW MIXON, of Leek, silk manufacturer, to MARY ANN, eldest daughter of the late MR. FREDERICK CLELOW, of Tanton, Somerset.

Sept. 4, in the Chapel of Merton College, Oxford, by the Rev. the Warden of Radley, SIDNEY OWEN, Esq., Fellow of St. Peter's College, Radley, and Professor of History and Political Economy in the Elphinstone College, Bombay, to MARY ELLIS, eldest daughter of HENRY SEWELL, Esq., Colonial Secretary and First Minister of New Zealand.

Sept. 7, at St. Bride's, Fleet-street, W. B. HANCOCK, of the General Register Office, Somerset House, son of Mr. J. Hancock of Weymouth, Dorset, to HARRIETTE MATILDA, daughter of MR. H. HARVEY, of the same place.

DEATHS.

Aug. 5, at Cleveland, Ohio, United States, DAVID WHITMARSH, late of Albert-villas, Cotham, Bristol. He was for some years in the service of the British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Company, and gained the respect and esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. His end was peace.

Aug. 27, after a lengthened affliction, deeply lamented, JANE, wife of Mr. CHARLES BARROWDALE, London-road, Leicester, aged sixty-five.

Sept. 4, after a lingering illness, GEORGINA, the youngest daughter of MR. J. H. R. PIKE, of 10, Water-lane, Tower-street, and of 9, Montague-terrace, Bow-road, in her twenty-third year. At Oving House, Bucks, Sir THOMAS DIBBY AUBREY, Bart., in his seventy-fourth year.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

For the last day or two the money-market has been in a weak state, with a downward tendency. Yesterday there was a fall of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. To-day there was more steadiness at the opening. At the close, prices were quoted the same as yesterday, but after the recognised hours a fresh decline of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was quoted. The market finally closed with a heavy appearance at the lowest rates touched since the decline set in. Any tendency towards recovery is at once met by sales. The abundant supply of stock in the market seems to have surprised many of the late operators for a rise; and additional discouragement is given by the tighter appearance lately assumed by the money-market. The demand for money continues good in all quarters. Consols were 94½ for money, and 95½ for October. Exchequer Bills have risen 1½

viz., to 16s. 17s. prem. The Bonds are 100½ 100½. The New Threes are marked 95½ 95½.

In the Foreign Stock Market the transactions have been very limited at about previous rates. Grenada Deferred Bonds are 7½ Mexican, 22½. Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cent., advanced to 95½. Spanish New Deferred Bonds advanced to 25½. Turkish Four per Cent., brought 103½; and Dutch Four per Cent., 98½.

The transactions in the Railway Share Market this morning have been rather numerous, and prices, with one or two exceptions, have slightly given way. Eastern Counties, 89. Great Northern, 25½; also 4 Stock, 83½. Great Western, 84½. Lancashire and Yorkshire, 97. Brighton, 106½. North Western, 102½, 103½. South Western, 105½, 106. Midland, 79. North Eastern, Berwick, 80½; and South Eastern 72½, 72½.

The Foreign and Colonial Lines have been moderately active at steady rates. Dutch Rhenish are 14; Great Indian Peninsula, 21½ 21½; Northern of France, 40½; and Paris and Lyons 3d. Madras Five per Cent., third Extension, declined to 6½.

Joint Stock Bank Shares are very inactive. Bank of Australasia are at 104. London and County, 30½. Provincial of Ireland, 55½; and Unity Mutual, 42.

Miscellaneous Shares remain dull, and prices have shown no material alteration. General Screw Steam are 105½. New South Wales Government Debentures, 101; and North of Europe Steam, 13½.

The arrivals of the precious metals during the past week were large, amounting to 928,000/, of which a large proportion was silver. The shipments were also heavy, being about 863,000/, nearly all silver.

The returns of the Bank of England last published show the following movements: An increase in the Public Deposits of 868,493; a decrease in the Private Deposits of 287,376; an increase in the Government Securities of 52,056; an increase in the Other Securities of 1,082,822; a decrease in the Bullion and Notes Issued of 48,640; a decrease in the Reserve of 234,999; and an increase in the Rest of 272,683.

At the meeting of shareholders in the London and Paris Bank, convened to-day at the invitation of Mr. Wm. Harridge, resolutions were adopted expressive of the shareholders' opinion that the directors have failed to carry out the objects contemplated in the company's original prospectus, and recommending the dissolution of the undertaking. A committee was appointed to confer with the directors, and the meeting was adjourned until the 22nd inst.

Mr. J. J. Mechi, the governor of the Unity Bank, has issued a notification to the public, in which, referring to the uneasiness excited by the failure of the Royal British Bank, he states that every depositor in the Unity Bank may have his money, if he chooses to apply for it; that the paid-up capital of the bank—150,000/-—remains intact, with the exception of the ordinary expenses; and that the bad debts made by the bank do not amount to 50/-, although 150,000/- worth of bills discounted by it have run off.

The directors of the Unity Fire Insurance Association have convened an extraordinary general meeting of the proprietors for the 23rd inst., when a resolution will be proposed for the appointment of a committee, charged specially to inquire into the past transactions and present position of the company. The names of the members of the proposed committee are at the same time announced.

The trade reports from the manufacturing towns for the past week indicate a general improvement of tone from the satisfactory results of the harvest. At Manchester, although the transactions have not been very large, increased confidence is observable, and prices are extremely firm. The Birmingham advices describe steadiness in the iron-market, and a general expectation that the quotations of last quarter-day will be upheld. Great anxiety is manifested among all classes for the practical confirmation of Mr. Bassiner's invention. In the general trades of the place there has been full occupation, and good orders have arrived from Australia, South America, and India. The demand for agricultural implements is active. A useful waterproof paper for packing has been introduced, which is found especially valuable in the export of polished articles. At Nottingham there has been no alteration. The competition for silk, which is dearer than at any time during the past thirty years, is augmented by French buyers in our markets. In the woollen districts there has been a steady extent of business; and in the Irish linen markets the operations have been moderate at former terms.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Tues.
Sper. St. Consols	94½ 3	94½ 5	95	94½ 5	94½ 5	94½
Consols for Accoutant	94½ 3	94½ 5	94½ 5	94½	94½ 5	94½
8 per Cent. Red.	95½ 3	95½ 5	95½ 5	95½	95½	95½
New 3 per Cent.						
Annuities.....	95½ 3	95½ 5	95½ 5	95½ 5	95½ 5	95½ 5
India Stock.....	219	219	220	—	—	—
Bank Stock.....	15 pm	15 pm	15 pm	15 pm	15 pm	—
Exchequer-Bills	15 pm	15 pm	15 pm	15 pm	15 pm	—
India Bonds.....	—	15 pm	—	—	15 pm	—
Long Annuities.....	18 9-16	18 7-16	18 9-16	—	—	—

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR is far superior to Eau de Cologne for all Toilet and Sanitary Purposes. Price 1s., 2s. 6d., and 3s., Gerard-street, Soho, London.

IF YOU ARE BALD or YOUR HAIR IS THIN, pray use ALIX. Ross's Cantharides Oil, which causes the hair to grow on bald places, produces luxuriant whiskers, a superior gloss, and removes scurf. Sold at 2s. 6d., forwarded for stamps; carriage free, twelve extra, by Alex. Ross, 1, Little Queen-street, High Holborn.

TEETH.—E. MILES and SON, Surgeons—Dentists, 15, Liverpool-street, Bishopsgate Church. BETS SETS OF TEETH of every kind fixed without pain. Stopping in a superior manner, &c. A white cement for decayed front teeth.

TEETH.—Invention.—Mr. EDWARD A. JONES, Inventor and Manufacturer of the IMPROVED TEETH, which are fixed permanently, without springs or wires; they do not change colour, decay, nor break. A complete set, from 3s.; per tooth, 5s.—12s., Strand, next Waterloo-bridge, and 55, Connaught-terrace, Hyde-park.

TEETH!—IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MESSRS. GABRIEL, the Old Established Dentists, have the honour to inform their Patients and the Public that they have REMOVED to their NEW PREMISES, situate 33, Ludgate-hill, where they continue to supply, as for many years past, the celebrated SILICIOUS ENAMELLED AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH. From 3s. 6d. per tooth. Sets, 4s. 4s. each. Superior to any now in use. Warranted to answer fully every purpose for which nature intended the original, without Extracting Teeth or Stumps, and without Wires of any description.

By the New and Painless System One Visit only is required of Country Patients. HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT have been awarded for the production of A PERFECTLY WHITE ENAMEL for Decayed Front Teeth, which entirely supersedes the use of any of the Amalgams now in use, consisting, as they do generally, of Quicksilver and other Metals, than which nothing can be more injurious to the Teeth and constitution generally.

The WHITE ENAMEL is a non-metallic preparation, and requires to be seen to be appreciated.

Only to be obtained of Messrs. GABRIEL, at their Establishments,

33—LUDGATE-HILL—33

(Private Entrance, Five Doors from the Old Bailey); and a 112, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL.—Established 1804.

Consultation and every information gratis.

TEETH.—By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent. Newly Invented and Patented Application of CHEMICALLY PREPARED White and Gum Coloured India Rubber, in the Construction of Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.—Mr. EPHRAIM MOSELEY, Surgeon-Dentist, 61, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, Grosvenor-square, Sole Inventor and Patentee.

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SEPT. 10.]

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